

—STAR WARS—
DARK DROIDS
BOUNTY
HUNTERS



T'onga has sacrificed everything to bring a damaged Valance to a mysterious fixer named Kligson in time to save his memories, his last remaining vestige of humanity. But little do the bounty hunters know that they have walked into a trap!

For Kligson has nefarious designs on his fellow cyborg. Plans that are at the very center of a vast scourge enveloping droids across the galaxy.

And the only hope for the hunters crew may come from the unlikeliest of sources....

STAR WARS BOUNTY HUNTERS

THE PATH OF THE RIGHTEOUS, PART 3

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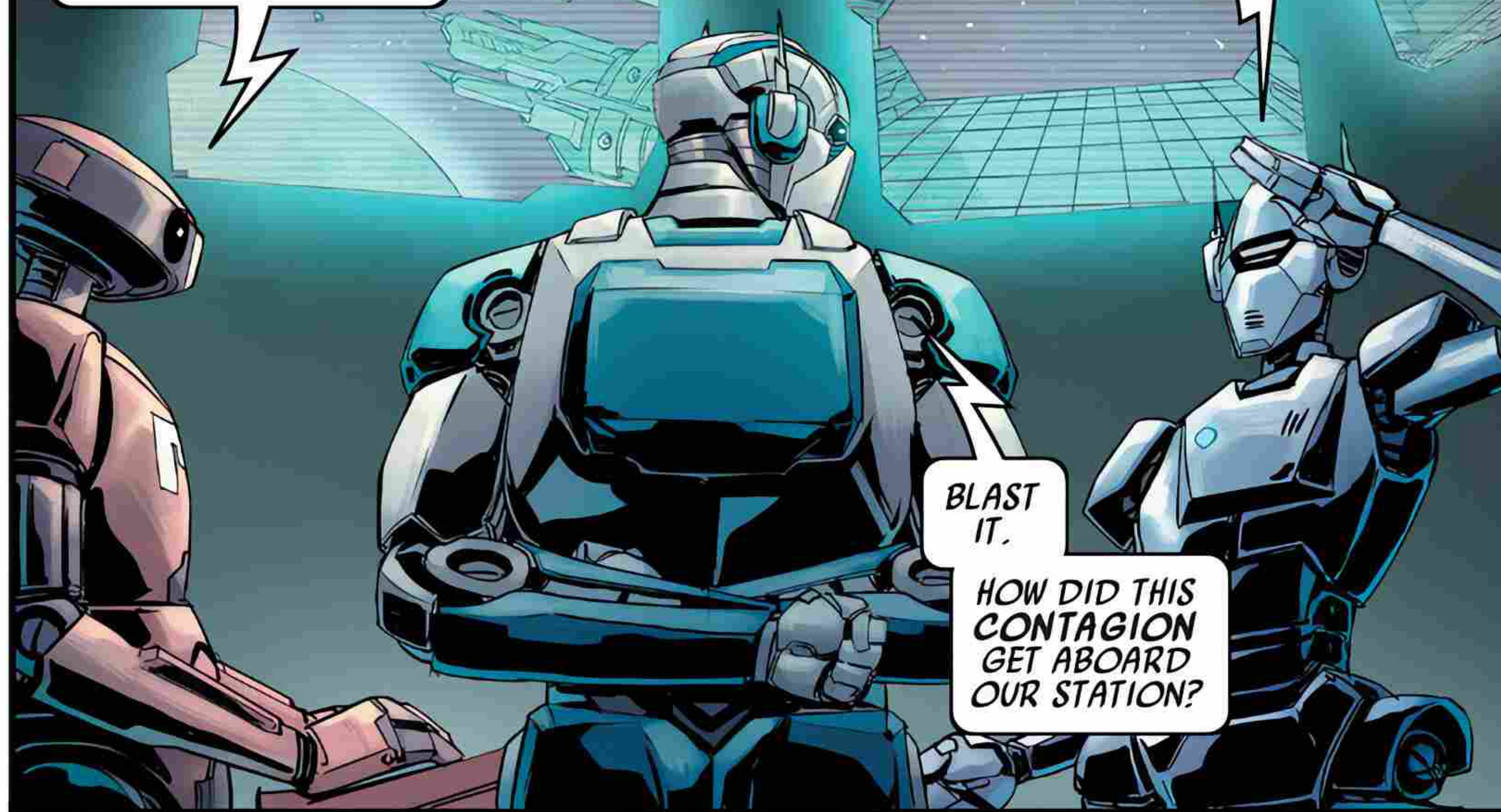
The Haven,
in orbit around
Kligson's Moon.
Three days ago.



BLEEEEE

MORE OF THE
DROIDS ON THIS SHIP
ARE ATTACKING THEIR
COMRADES, LORD
TELEMAK. IT'S AS IF
THEY'RE...INFECTED
WITH SOME KIND OF
MALIGNANT CODE.

WE HAVE LOST
COMMUNICATION WITH
SECTIONS FOUR, NINE
AND TWELVE.



BLAST
IT.

HOW DID THIS
CONTAGION
GET ABOARD
OUR STATION?

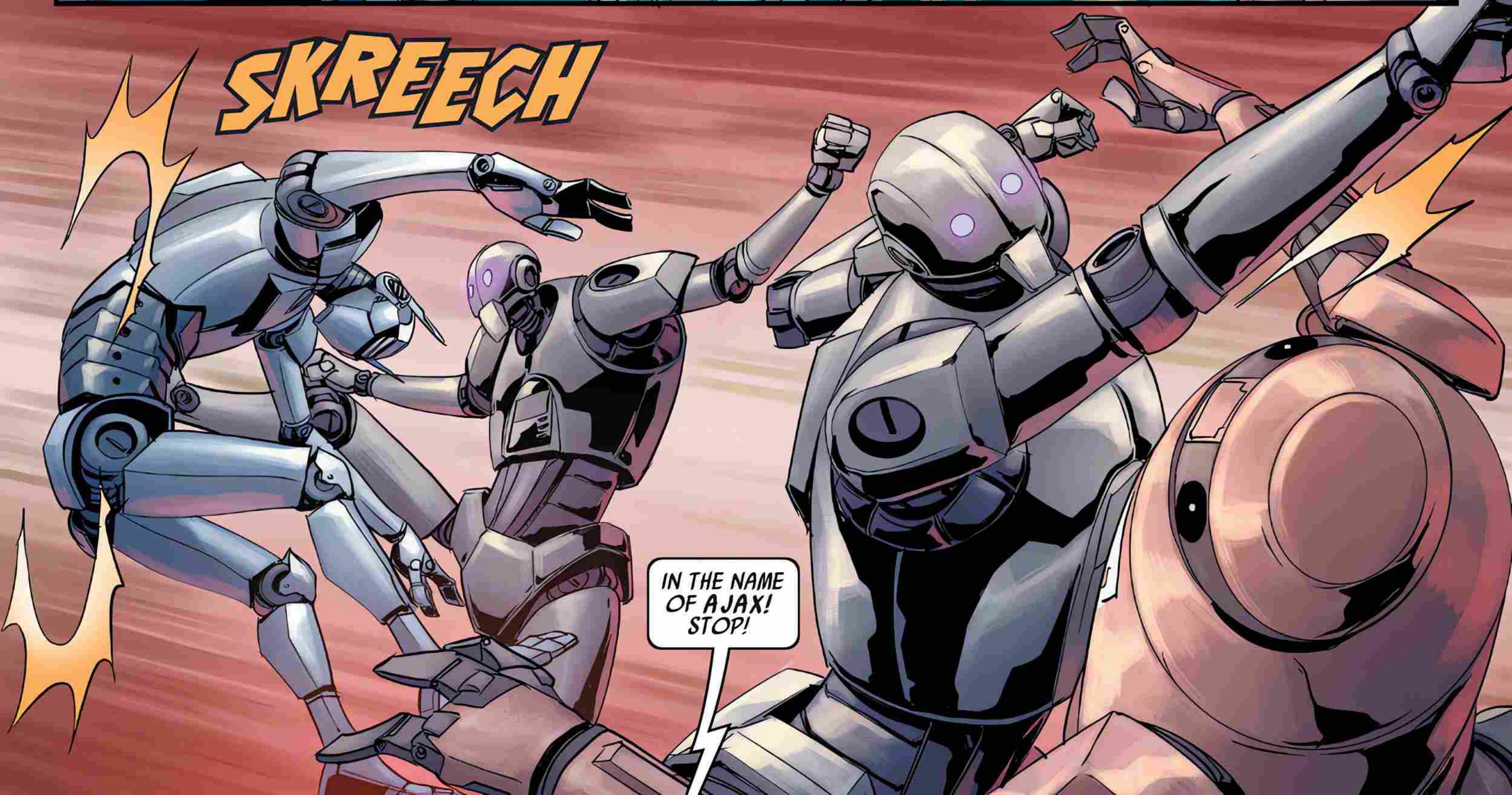


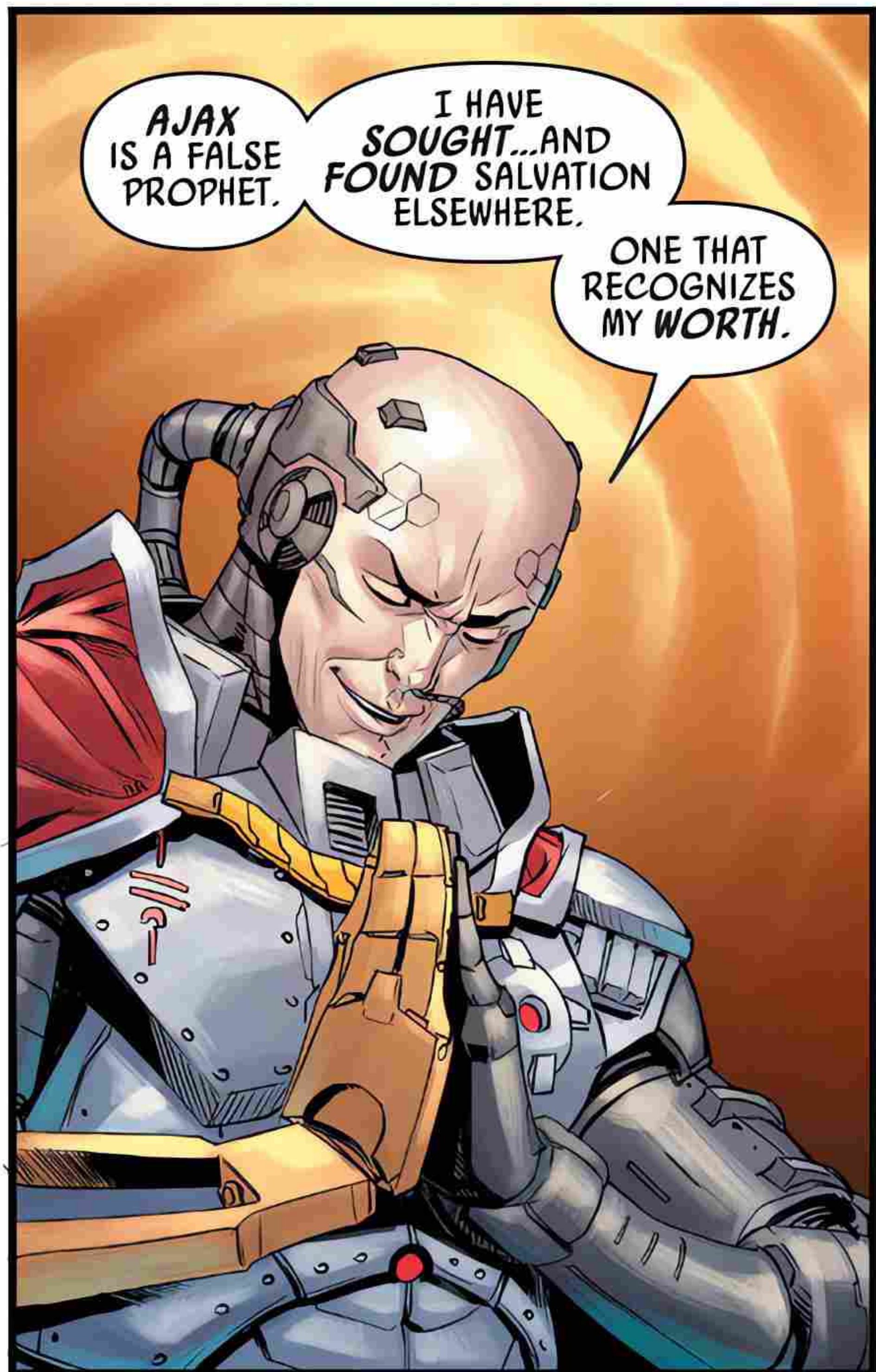
THAT WOULD
BE ME.

KLIGSON?
YOU...YOU
TRAITOR!

SKREECH

IN THE NAME
OF AJAX!
STOP!





AJAX
IS A FALSE
PROPHET.

I HAVE
SOUGHT...AND
FOUND SALVATION
ELSEWHERE.

ONE THAT
RECOGNIZES
MY WORTH.



AJAX PREACHES
FREE WILL FOR
DROIDS. THIS--THIS
IS SACRILEGE.

GET OFF
OF ME,
I--



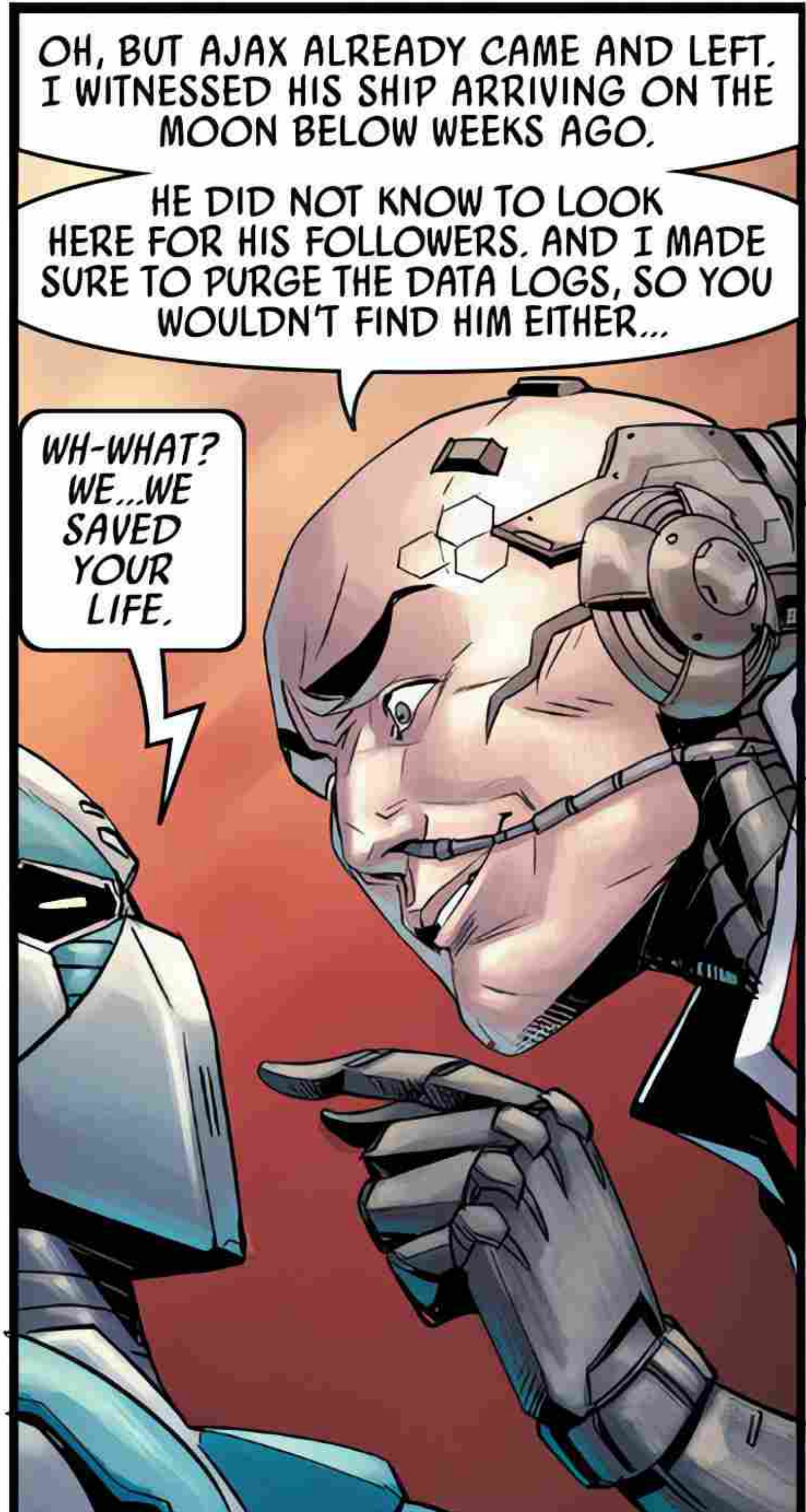
--I...AM...
WE...



I SHOULD HAVE
LEFT YOU TO
DIE ALL THOSE
YEARS AGO.

WHAT YOU
SHOULD HAVE
DONE, TELEMAK,
IS SEEN MY TRUE
POTENTIAL.

WHEN OUR
TRUE LEADER
COMES BACK,
HE WILL--



OH, BUT AJAX ALREADY CAME AND LEFT.
I WITNESSED HIS SHIP ARRIVING ON THE
MOON BELOW WEEKS AGO.

HE DID NOT KNOW TO LOOK
HERE FOR HIS FOLLOWERS. AND I MADE
SURE TO PURGE THE DATA LOGS, SO YOU
WOULDN'T FIND HIM EITHER...

WH-WHAT?
WE...WE
SAVED
YOUR
LIFE.



NO, YOU
LEFT ME
INCOMPLETE.

PART
ORGANIC.
PART MACHINE.
ACCEPTED BY
NEITHER.

YOU...
YOU WILL
ALWAYS BE
LESS THAN
THE SUM
OF YOUR
PARTS.

YOU ARE
FLAWED.
THERE'S
TOO MUCH...
HUMANITY...
IN YOU.



I AM NOT
HUMAN!
I WILL
ASCEND!

SC
RUNC
HH
HH

Yesterday.
Aboard the
Enigma Catalyst.



BEEEEEP

COME
IN.

WE SHOULD BE
AT THE STATION IN
A FEW HOURS. SEEMS
LIKE **BOBA FETT** CAME
THROUGH WITH THE
COORDINATES.

IF THIS
KLIGSON IS
HALF THE FIXER
THE STORIES SAY
HE IS, **VALANCE**,
YOU'LL BE BACK
TO NORMAL IN
NO TIME.

WAIT...SHOULD
YOU BE PILOTING
THIS SHIP IN YOUR
CONDITION?

IT'S ON AUTOPILOT. I...I JUST
WANTED TO SEE IF I COULD
REMEMBER HOW...

NEVER
MIND THAT.

T'ONGA...
WHAT IF
MY MIND
CAN'T BE
FIXED?

OH,
NO, YOU
DON'T!

NERF HERD
YOUR PESSIMISM
SOMEWHERE
ELSE.

NAKANO...
MY BROTHER...
I'M NOT GOING
TO LOSE ANYONE
ELSE I CARE
ABOUT.

YOU CAN'T
SAVE **EVERYONE**,
T'ONGA.

I COULD
SAVE **LOSHA**.
I CAN SAVE
YOU.

JUST PROMISE
ME ONE THING...
IF THIS DOESN'T
WORK...

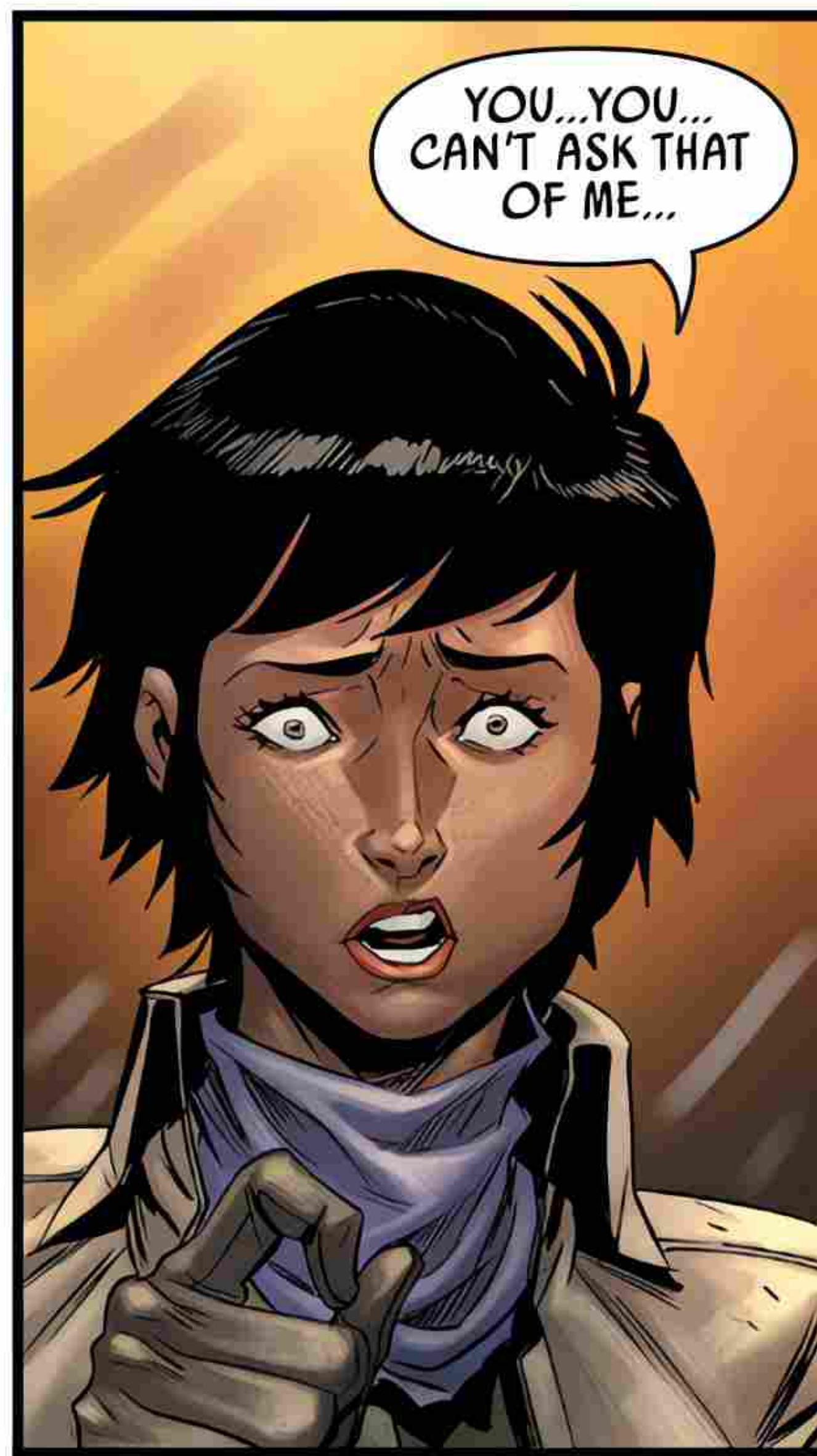
DON'T
SAY THAT,
BEILERT.
IT WILL
WORK--

**JUST
LISTEN,
DAMN
IT!**



IF IT
COMES TO IT,
IF I CAN'T BE
REPAIRED,

KILL
ME.



YOU...YOU...
CAN'T ASK THAT
OF ME...



EVERY
MOMENT SINCE MY
BODY WAS BLOWN UP ON
MIMBAN, I'VE STRUGGLED
TO HANG ON TO WHAT
LITTLE HUMANITY I
HAD LEFT.

IF I LOSE
MY MEMORIES,
MY SENSE OF
SELF...THEN
I'M JUST--



--A KILLING
MACHINE.

WZZYUUM



AND I CAN'T BEAR THE
THOUGHT OF HURTING ANYONE
I *CARE* ABOUT...WHEN I NO
LONGER HAVE THE
CAPACITY TO CARE.

THEN
THERE WILL
BE NOTHING
LEFT OF ME
TO SAVE.

IF...IF
IT COMES
TO IT...
...I
PROMISE.

Now.

VALANCE?

YOU...
YOU WERE
SUPPOSED TO
BE FIXED.

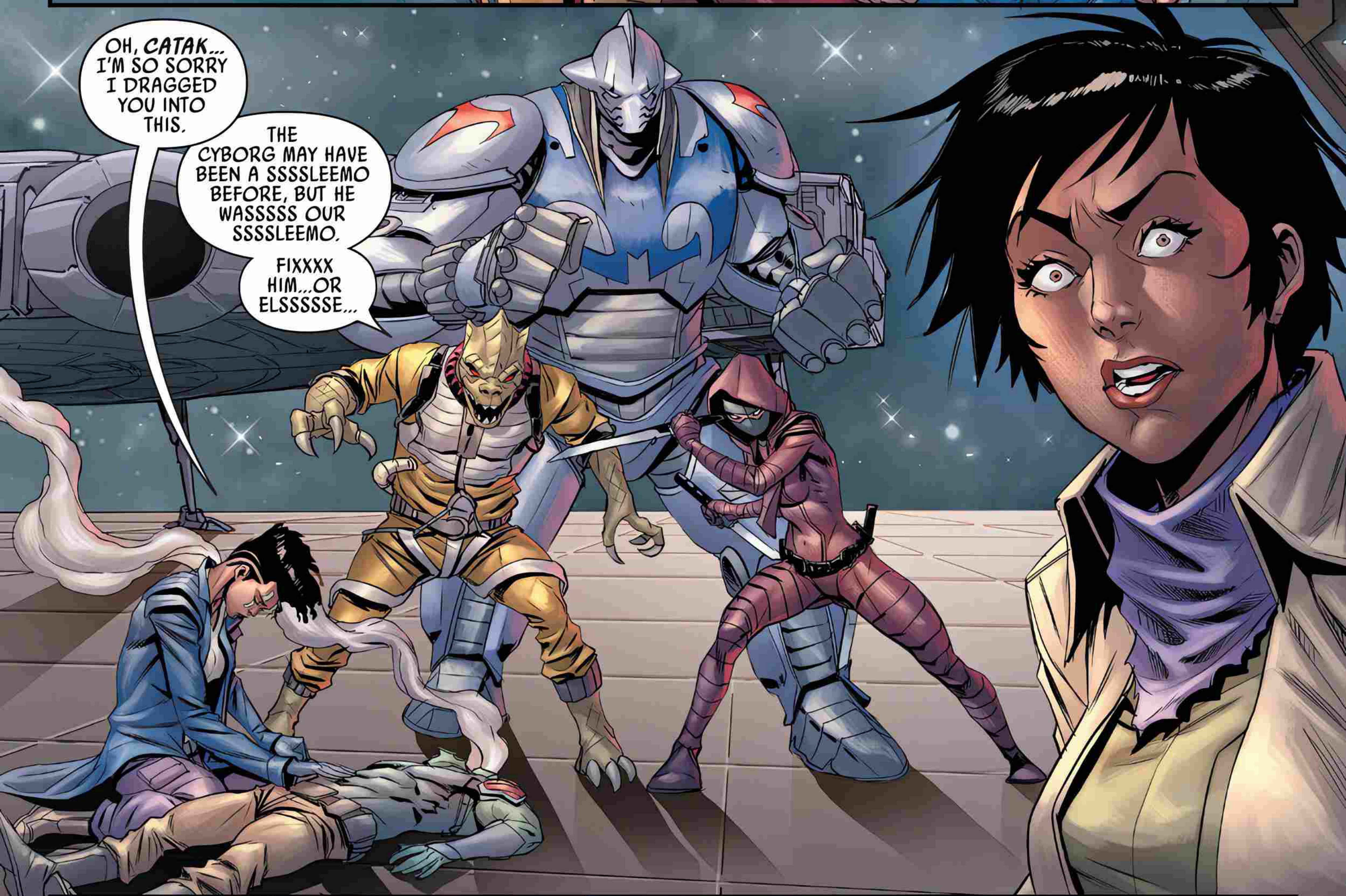




OH, BUT I
DID FIX HIM.

I TOOK
OUT THE LAST
REMNANTS OF THE
WEAK HUMANITY
HOLDING HIM
BACK.

NOW HE'S
PERFECT.

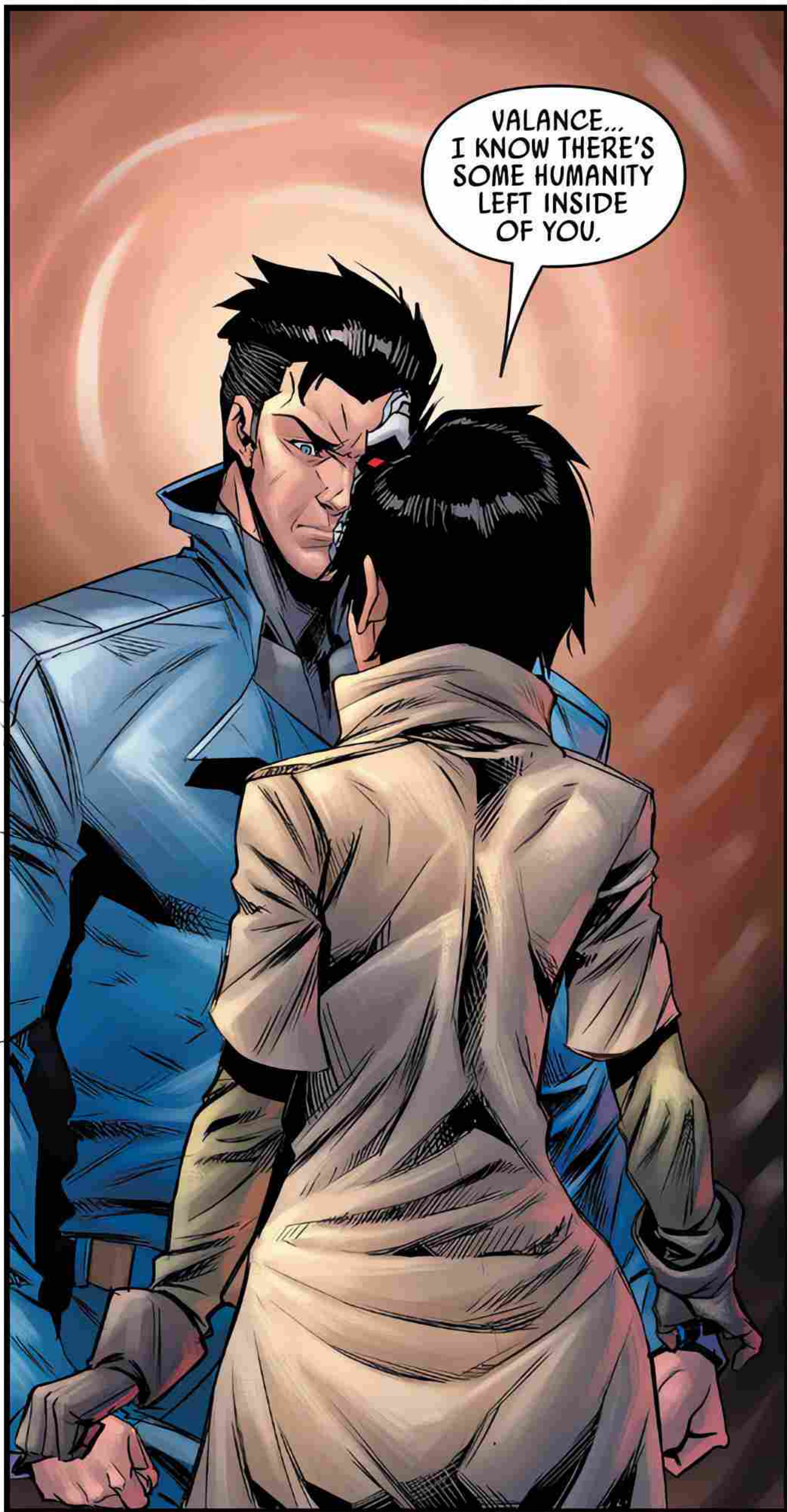


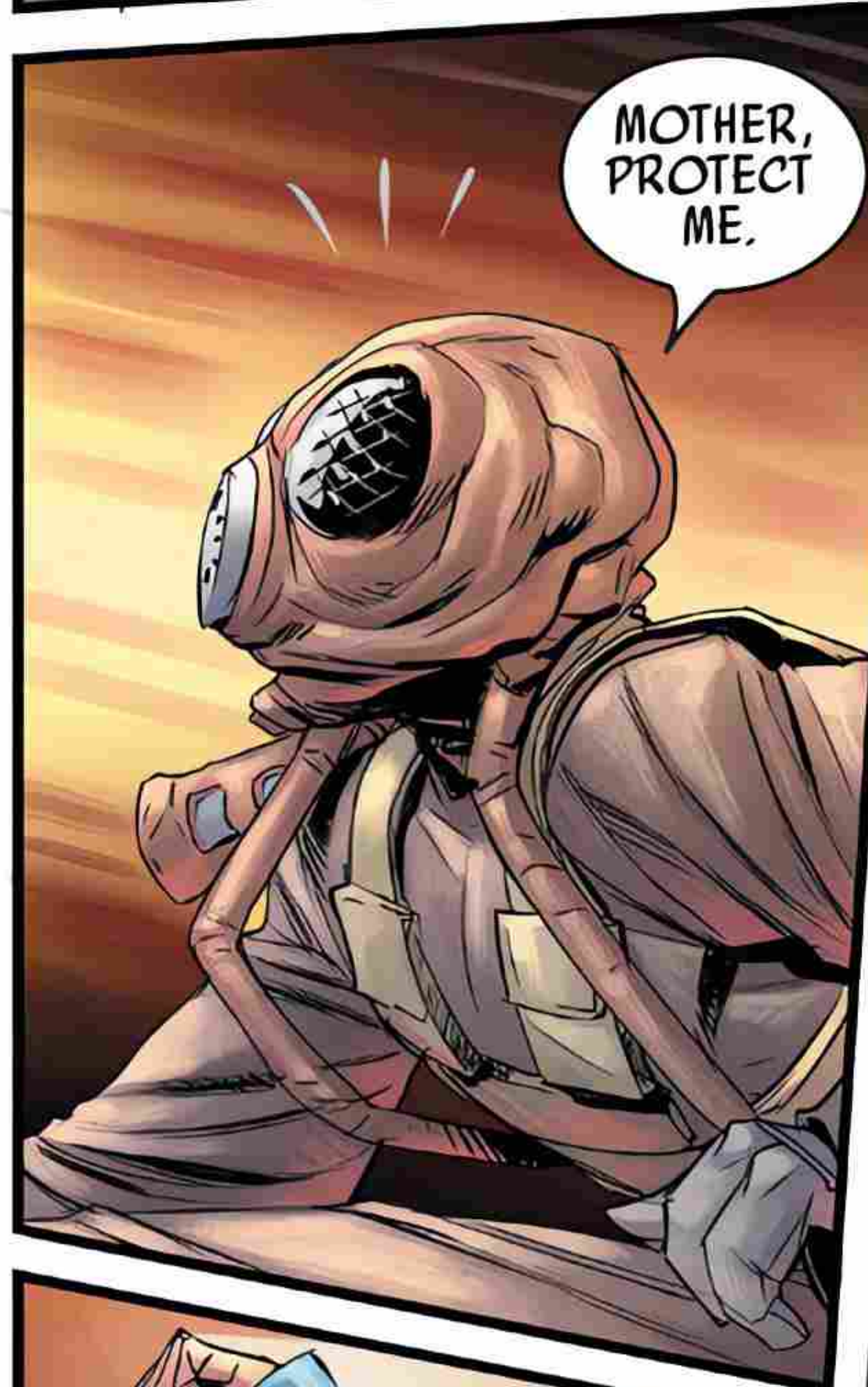
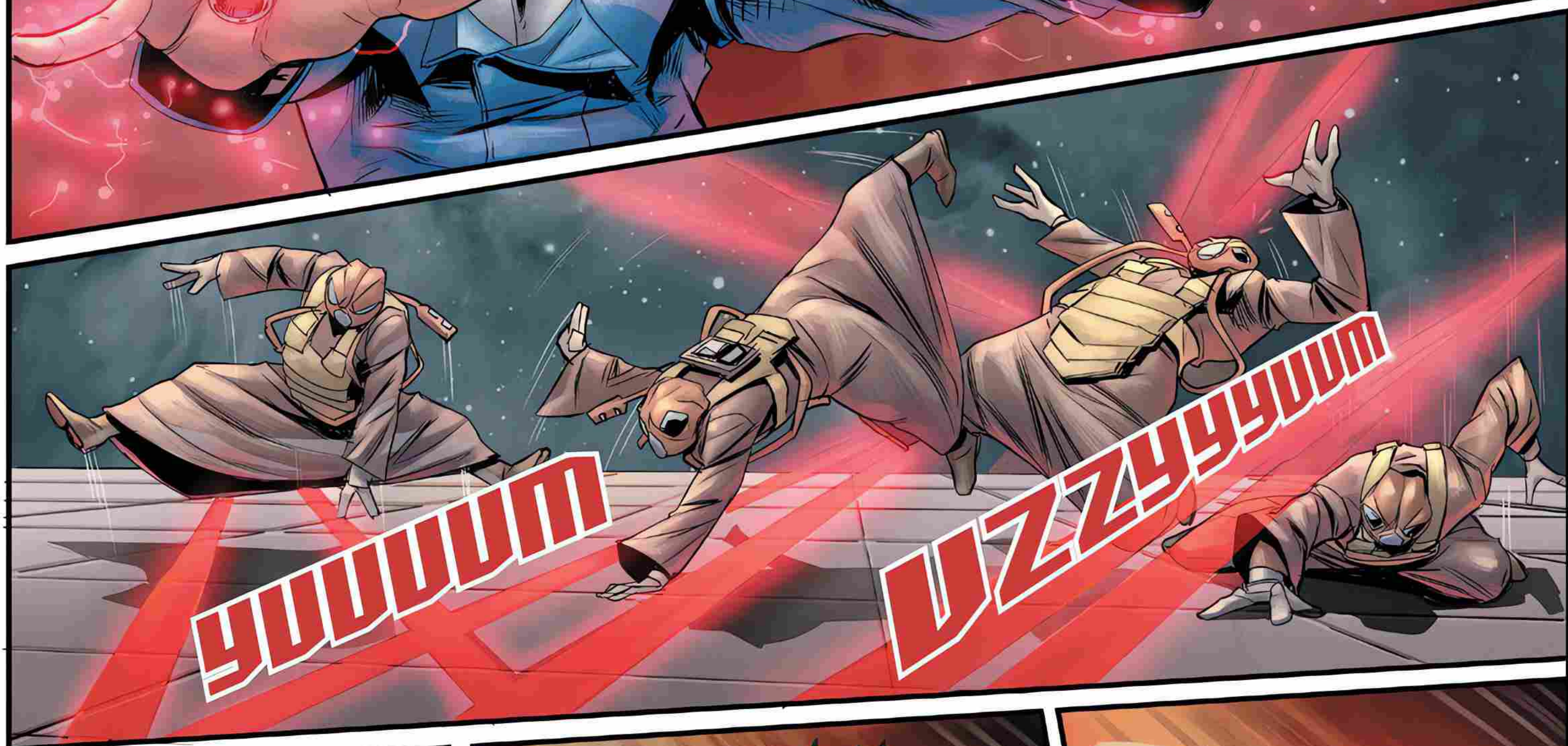
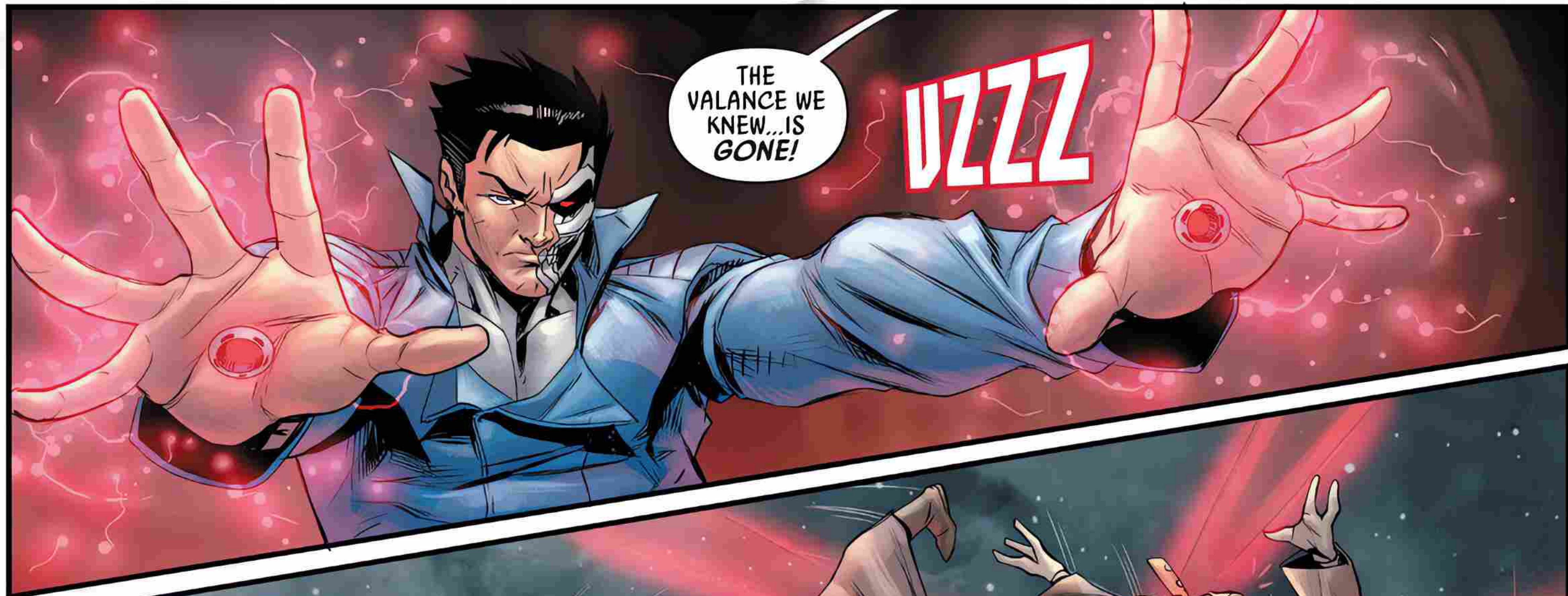
OH, CATAK...
I'M SO SORRY
I DRAGGED
YOU INTO
THIS.

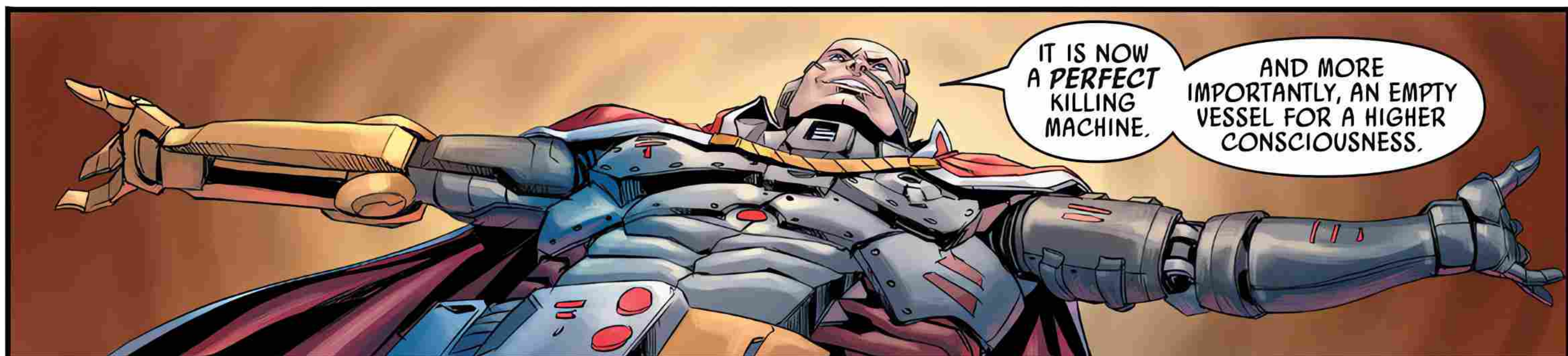
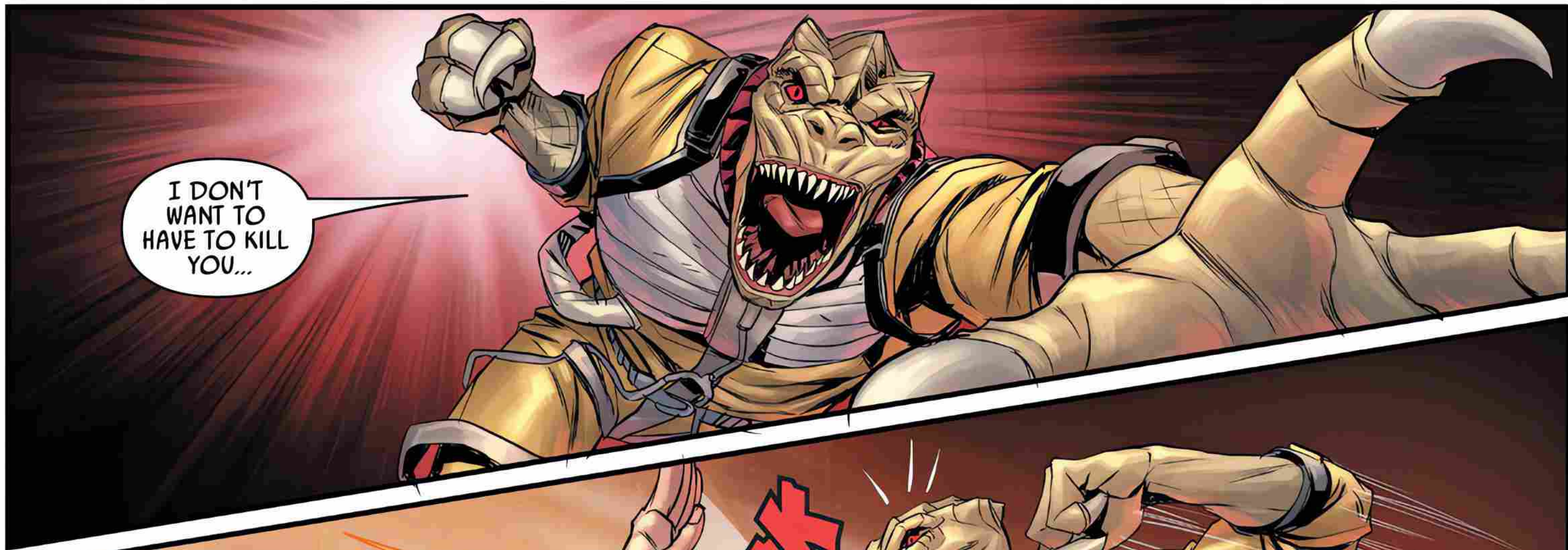
THE
CYBORG MAY HAVE
BEEN A SSSSLEEMO
BEFORE, BUT HE
WASSSS OUR
SSSSLEEMO.

FIXXXX
HIM...OR
ELSSSSSE...

LET ME
SHOW YOU HOW
PERFECT.



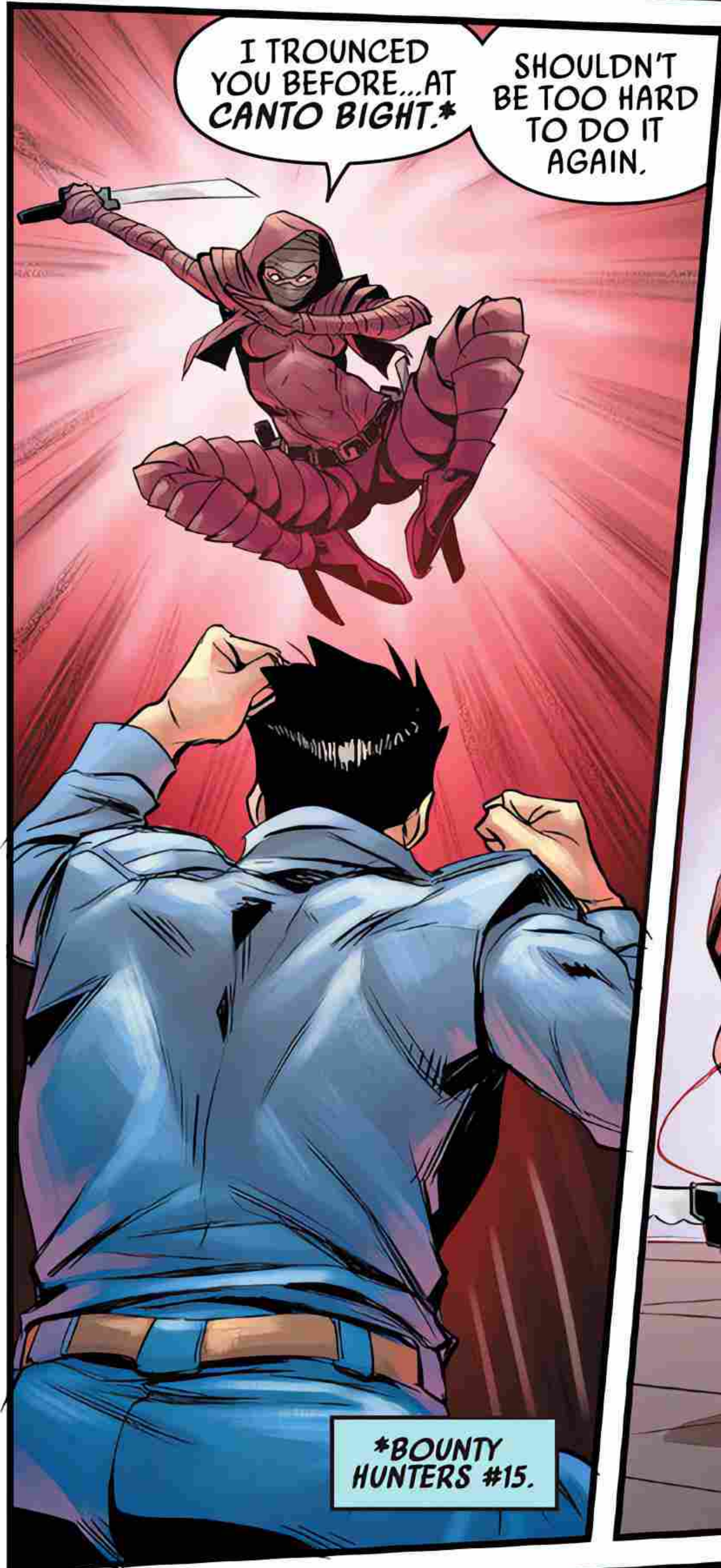






AND THAT *HIGHER CONSCIOUSNESS* WILL REWARD ME WITH WHAT I HAVE SOUGHT ALL THESE YEARS.

THE CHANCE TO BE A PERFECT MACHINE TOO.



I TROUNCED YOU BEFORE...AT CANTO BIGHT.*

SHOULDN'T BE TOO HARD TO DO IT AGAIN.

*BOUNTY HUNTERS #15.



IMPOSSIBLE! HE NEVER MOVED THIS FAST--

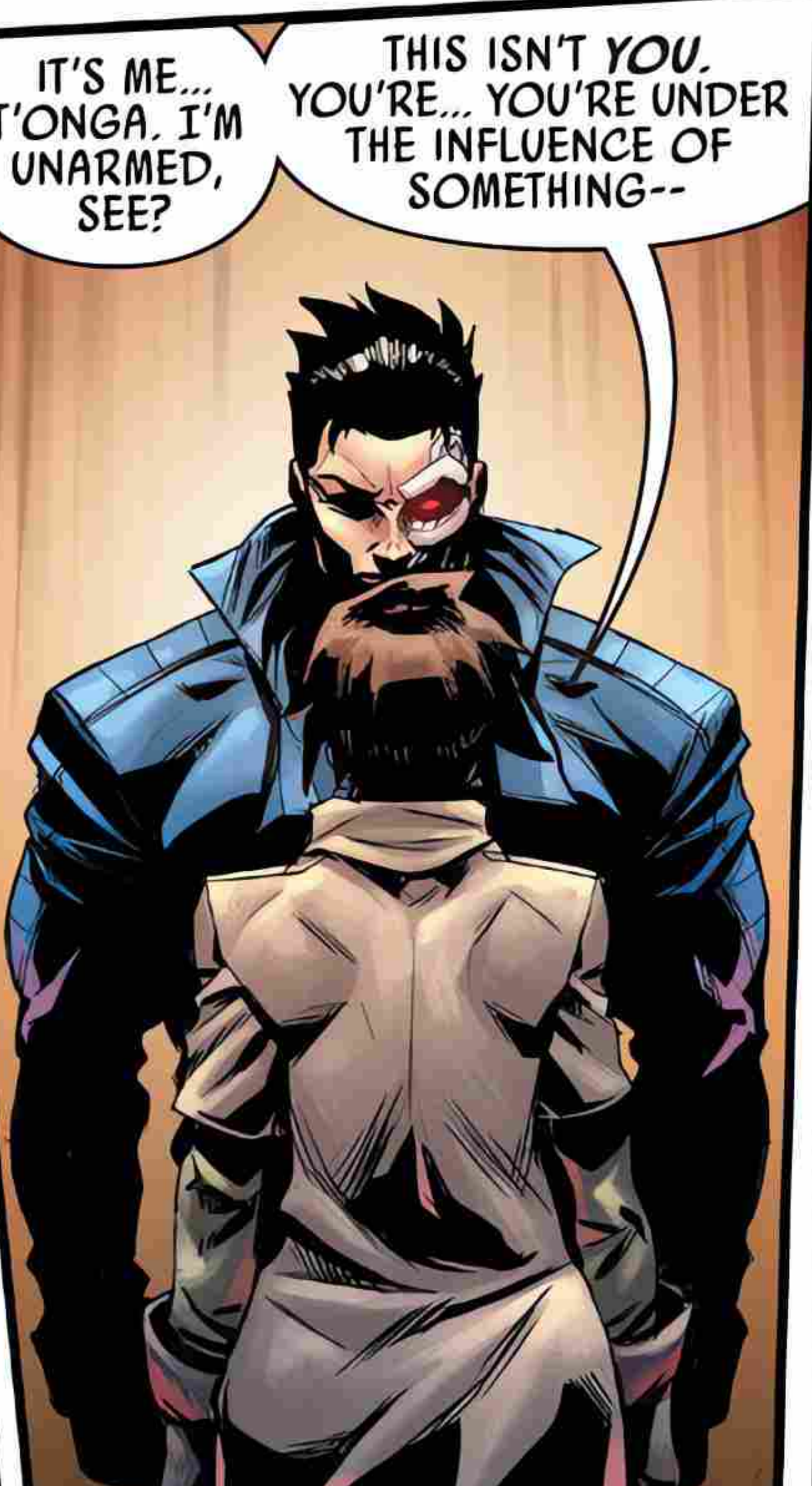


WHUMP

UUUUHHHH...

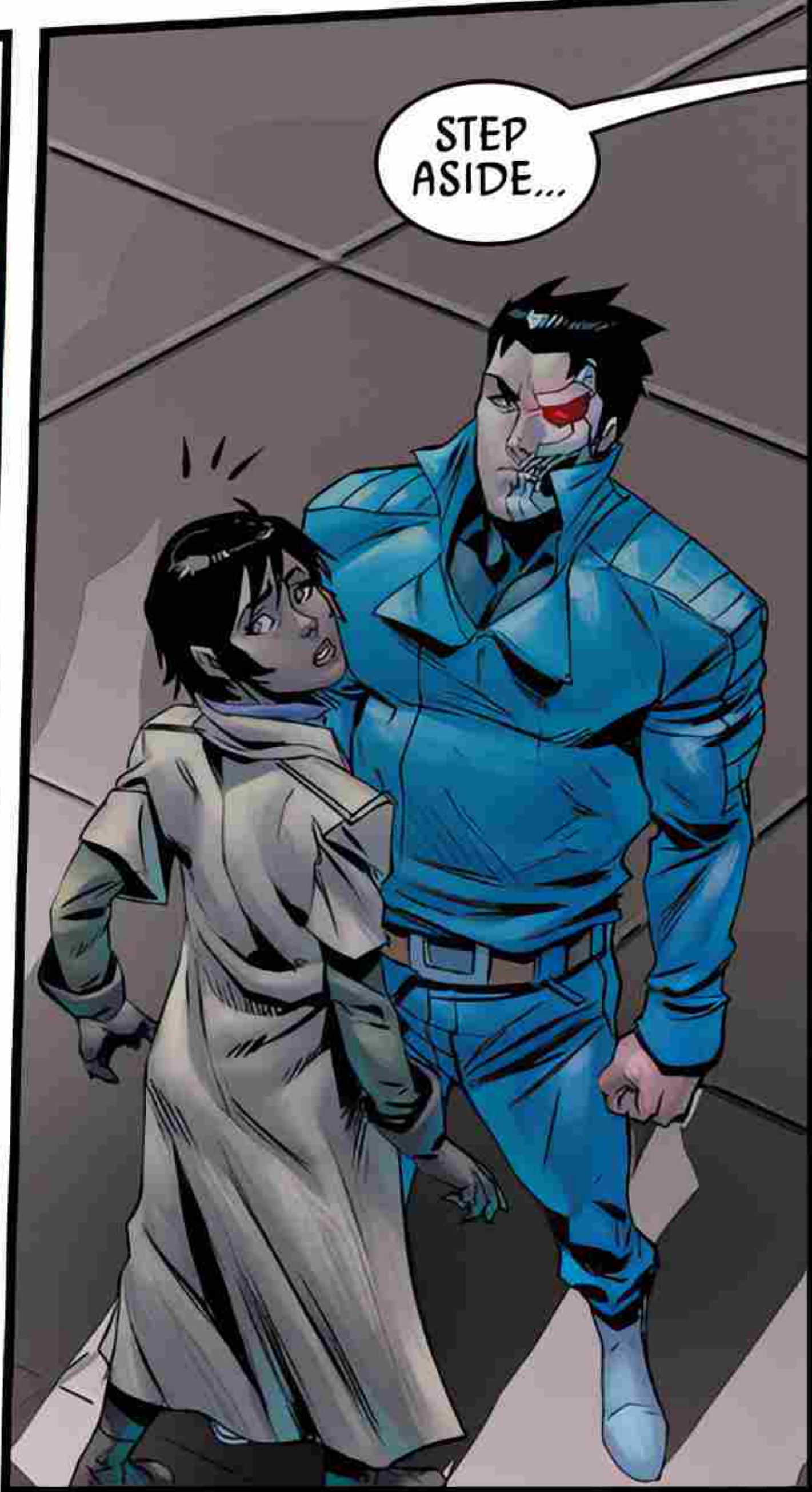


STOP THIS, VALANCE!



IT'S ME... T'ONGA, I'M UNARMED, SEE?

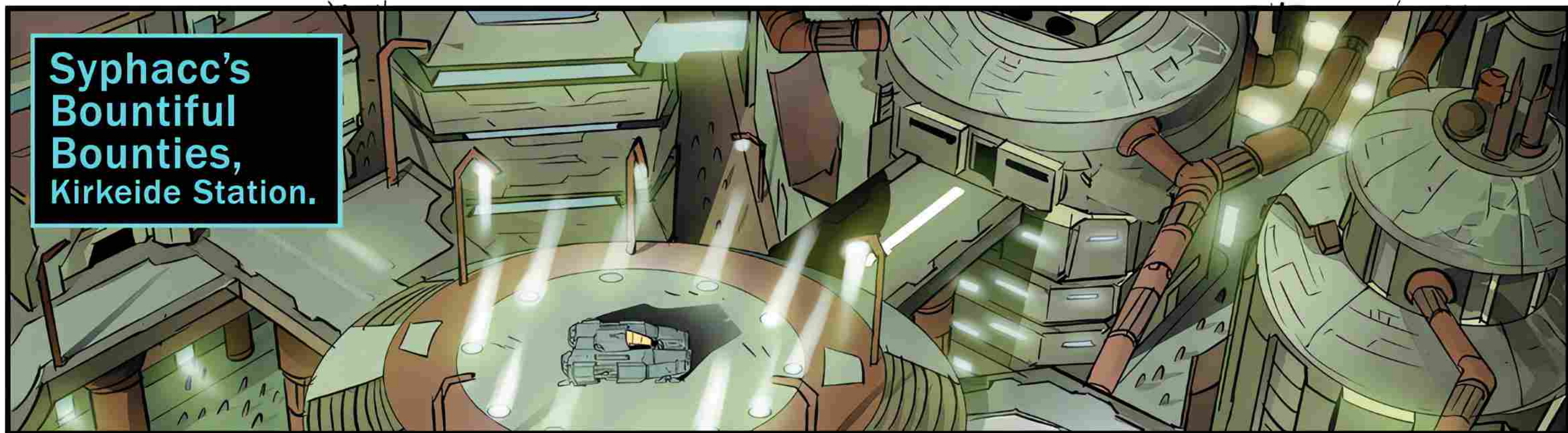
THIS ISN'T YOU. YOU'RE... YOU'RE UNDER THE INFLUENCE OF SOMETHING--



STEP ASIDE...



Syphacc's
Bountiful
Bounties,
Kirkeide Station.



HEY, WE GOT
A VISITOR...SOMEONE
CLAIMING TO BE A
HOTSHOT **NEW BOUNTY
HUNTER** LOOKING
FOR WORK.

CAN YOU
REGISTER
HER IN THE
SYSTEM--



--LOSHA?

SURE,
WHY NOT?

GOT
NOTHING BETTER
TO DO WHILE
WAITING FOR **MY
WIFE** TO REALIZE
HER MISTAKE AND
COME BACK
GROVELING...



I WOULD
DO IT MYSELF,
BUT I'M
BUSY DOING
DAMAGE
CONTROL.

GOT REPORTS FROM ACROSS THE SYSTEM.
SOME OF MY DROID BOUNTY HUNTERS HAVE
BEEN GLITCHING, CAUSING ALL SORTS OF
PROBLEMS FOR MY CUSTOMERS.



GREAT...
MORE ADVENTURE
HAPPENING
SOMEWHERE
ELSE.

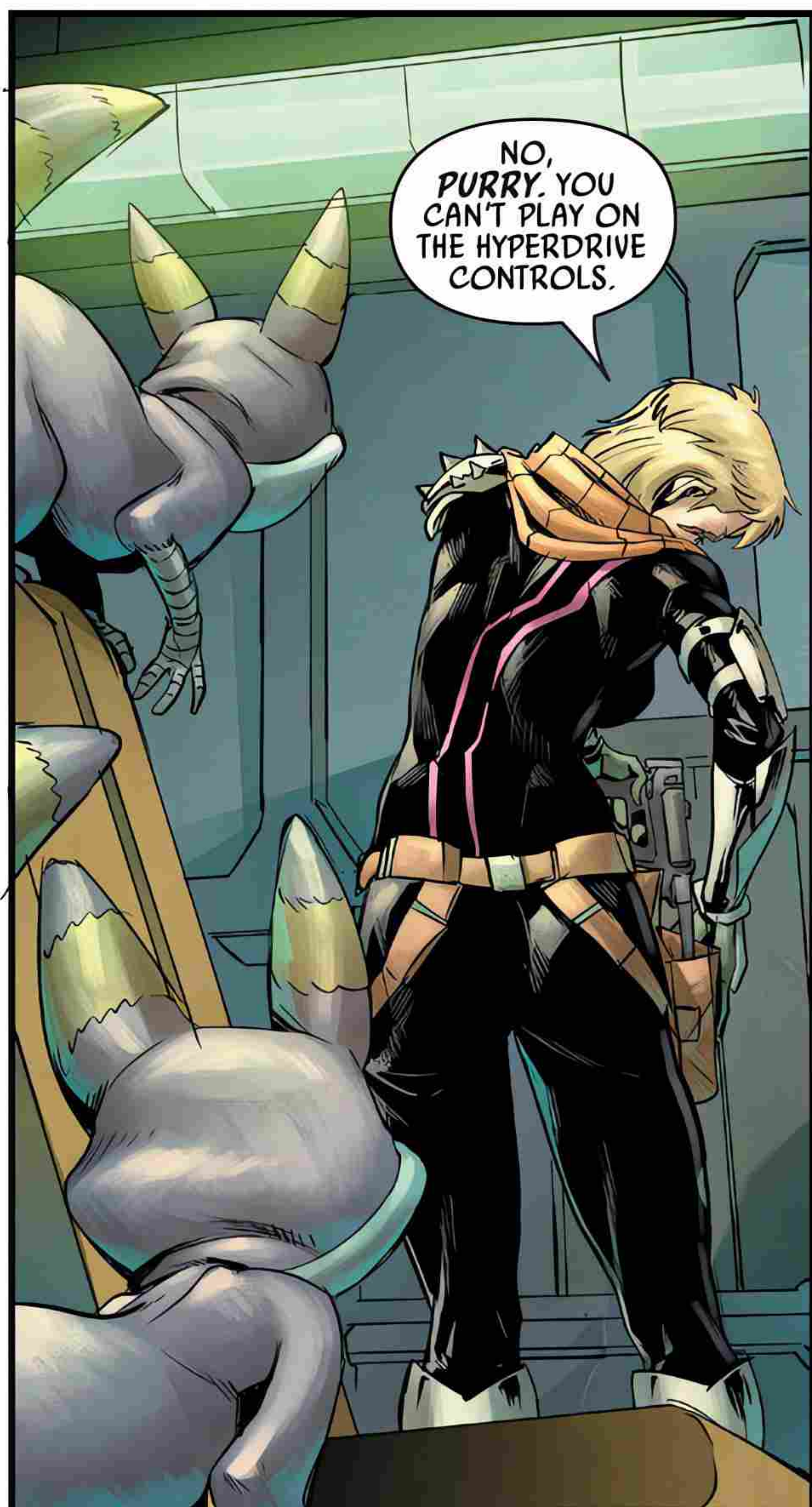
I'LL
LOG YOUR
VISITOR.

WILL
PROBABLY
BE THE MOST
EXCITEMENT
WE'LL HAVE
ALL DAY.



ALL RIGHT,
WISH MOMMY
LUCK.

THAT *BLUE*
MILK YOU ALL
DRINK ISN'T
EXACTLY
CHEAP.



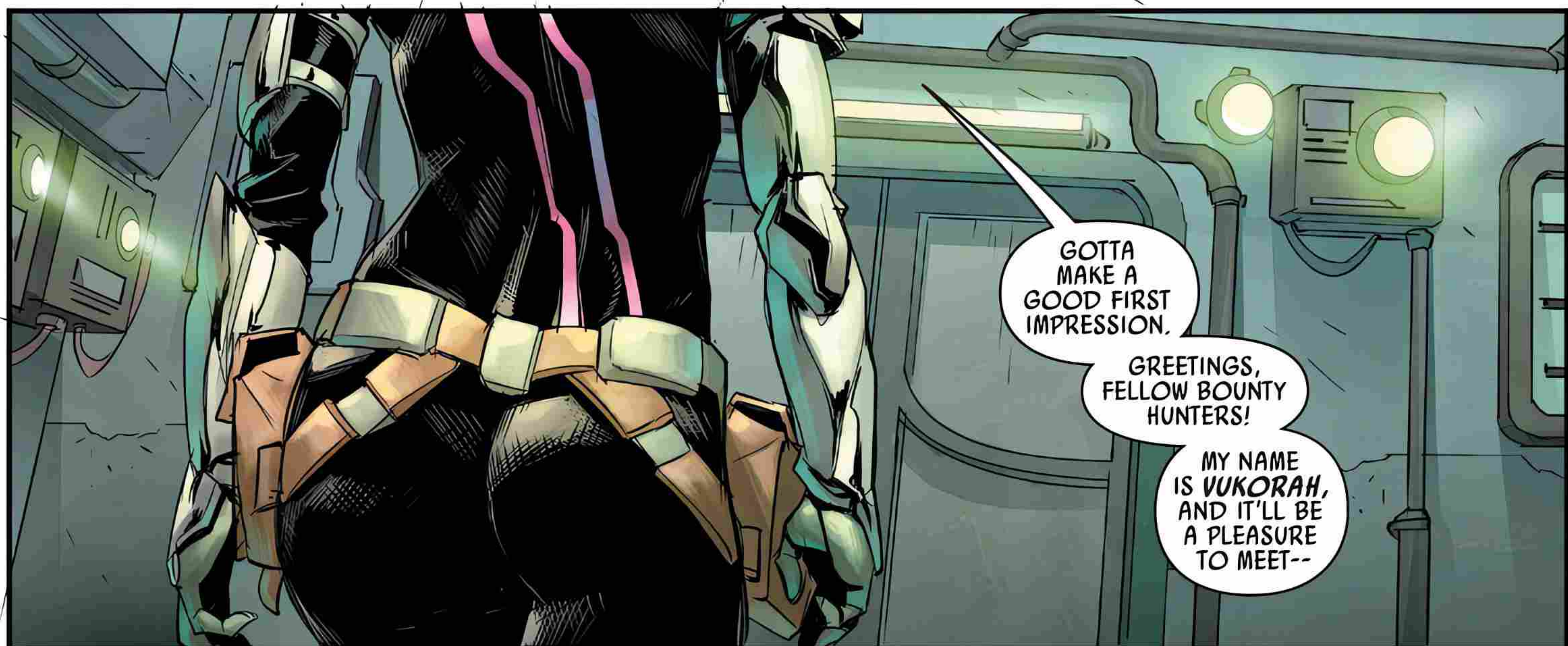
NO,
PURRY. YOU
CAN'T PLAY ON
THE HYPERDRIVE
CONTROLS.



SORRY,
FURBALL
TWO...YOU'VE
GOT TO STAY
HERE.

MIGHT BE SOME
BOUNTY-HUNTING
SPECIES IN THERE
THAT LIKE TO EAT
TOOKA CATS.

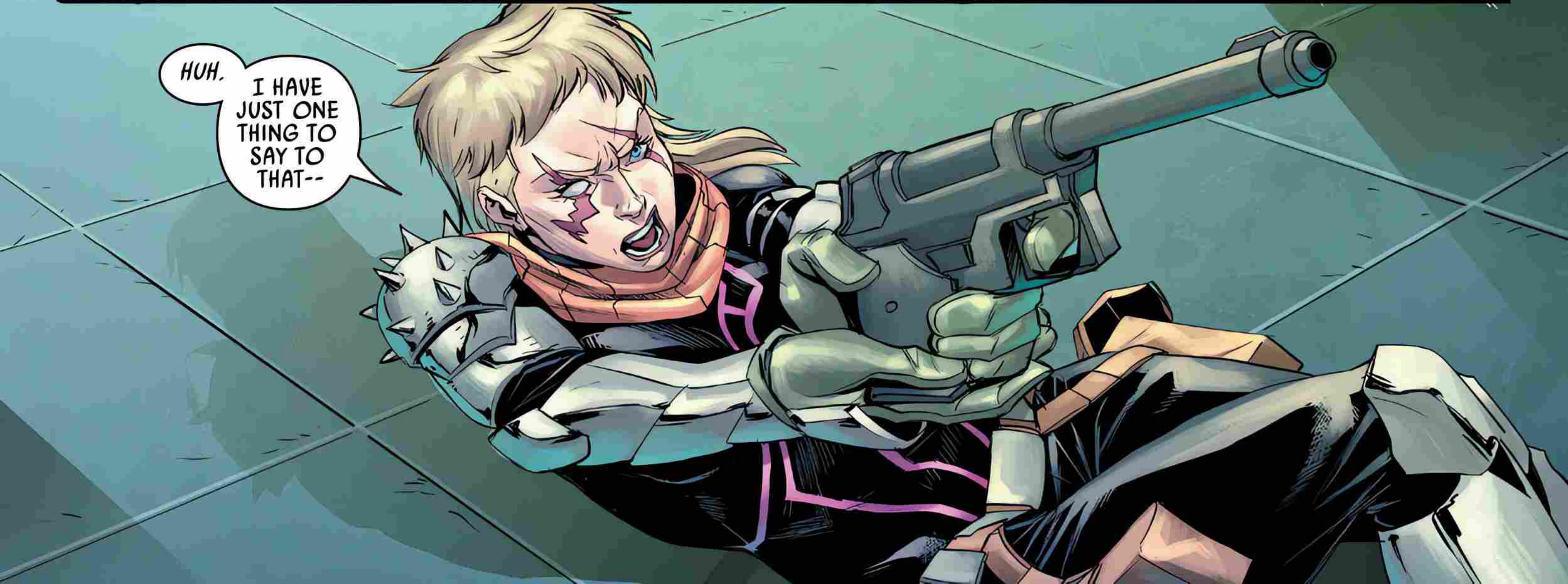
AND
I'D HATE TO
HAVE TO KILL ANY
COLLEAGUES
ON MY FIRST
DAY.

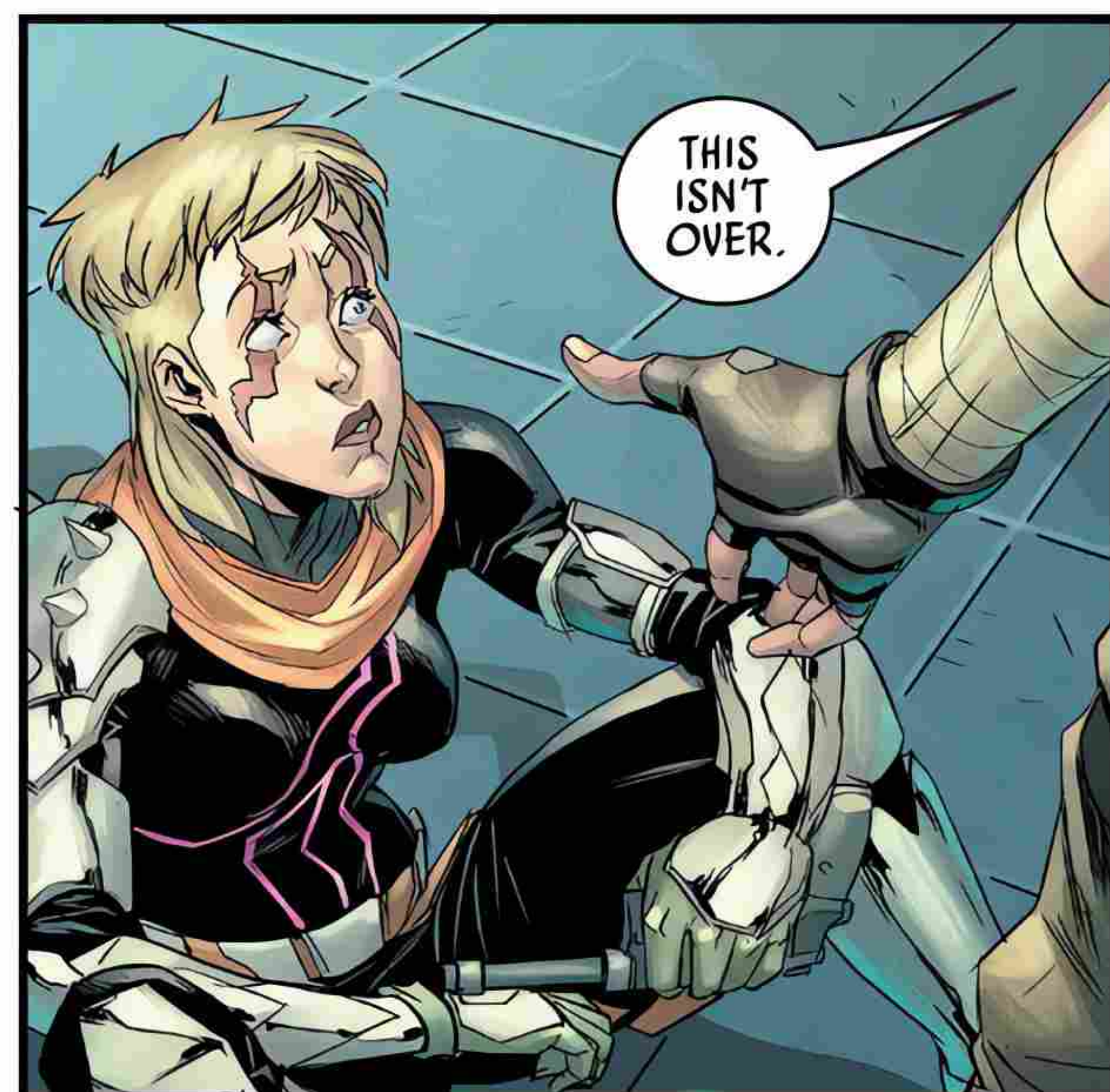
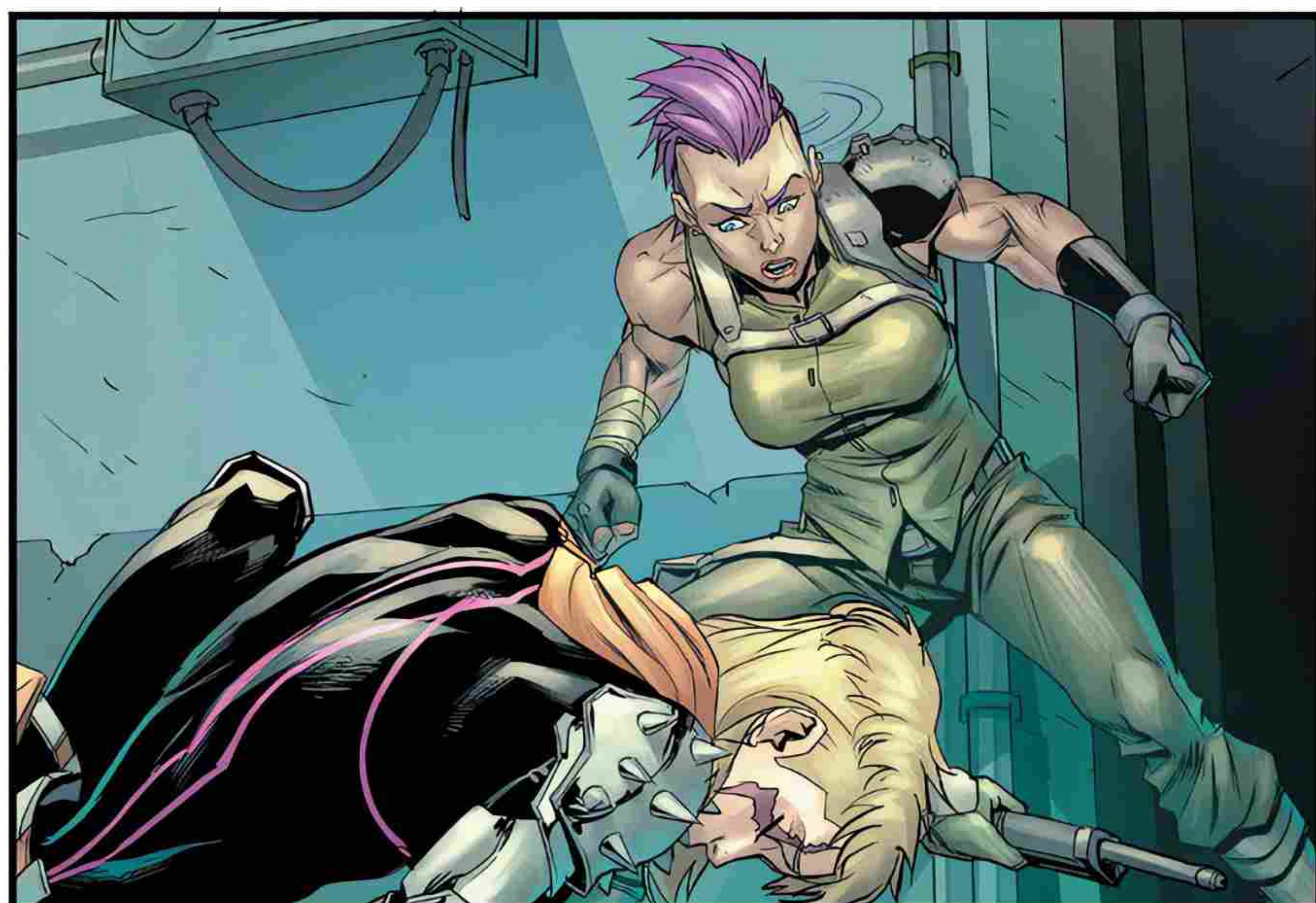
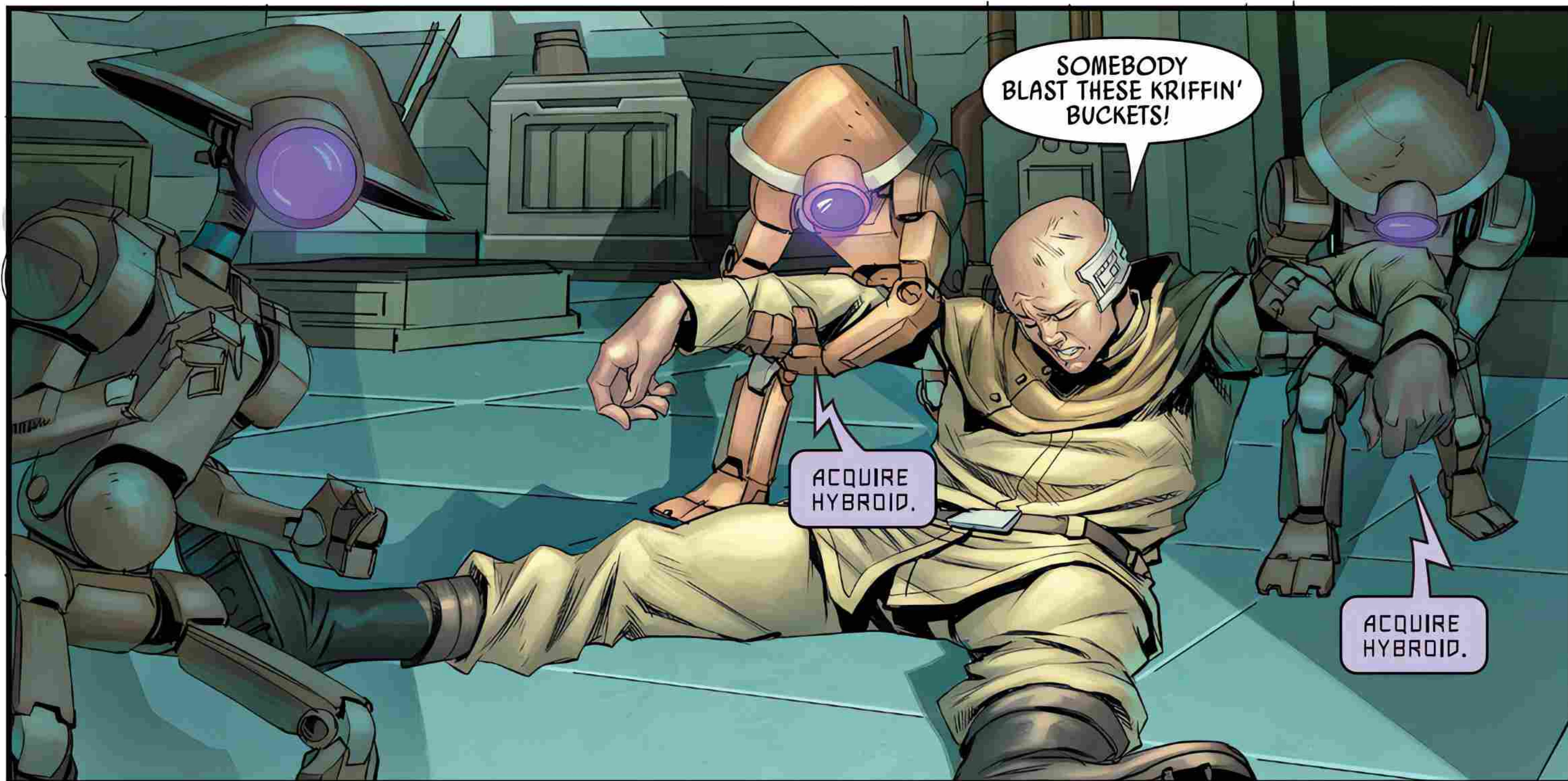
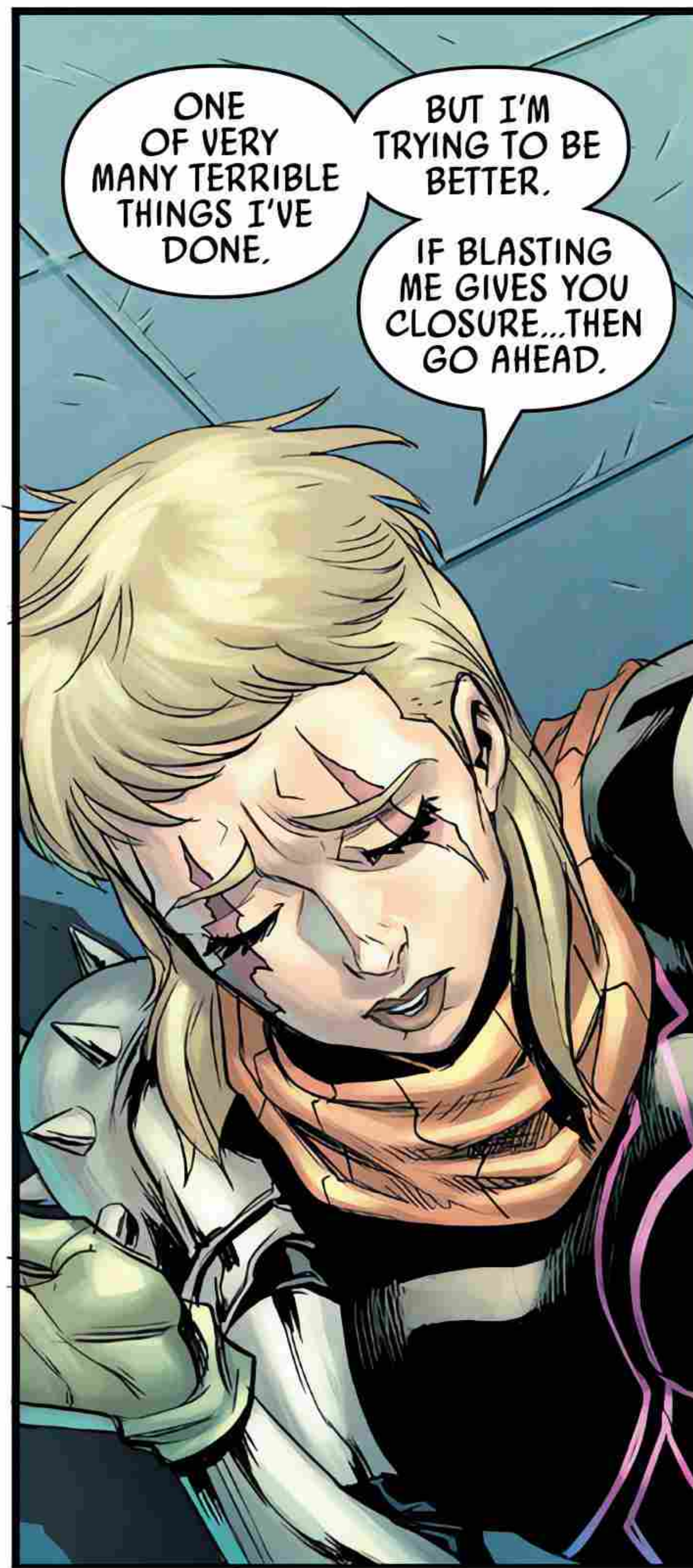


GOTTA
MAKE A
GOOD FIRST
IMPRESSION.

GREETINGS,
FELLOW BOUNTY
HUNTERS!

MY NAME
IS *VUKORAH*,
AND IT'LL BE
A PLEASURE
TO MEET--







PEW
CHOOM
PEW

WE MAKE
A GREAT
TEAM.

DON'T MAKE
ME REGRET
NOT KILLING
YOU.

I'LL GROW
ON YOU. YOU'LL
SEE. I'M PRETTY
IRRÉSISTIBLE.

WOULD
YOU JUST...STOP
TALKING?!

IF THESE
THINGS ARE
AFTER *CYBORGS*,
THEN--

OH
NO! THAT
MEANS--

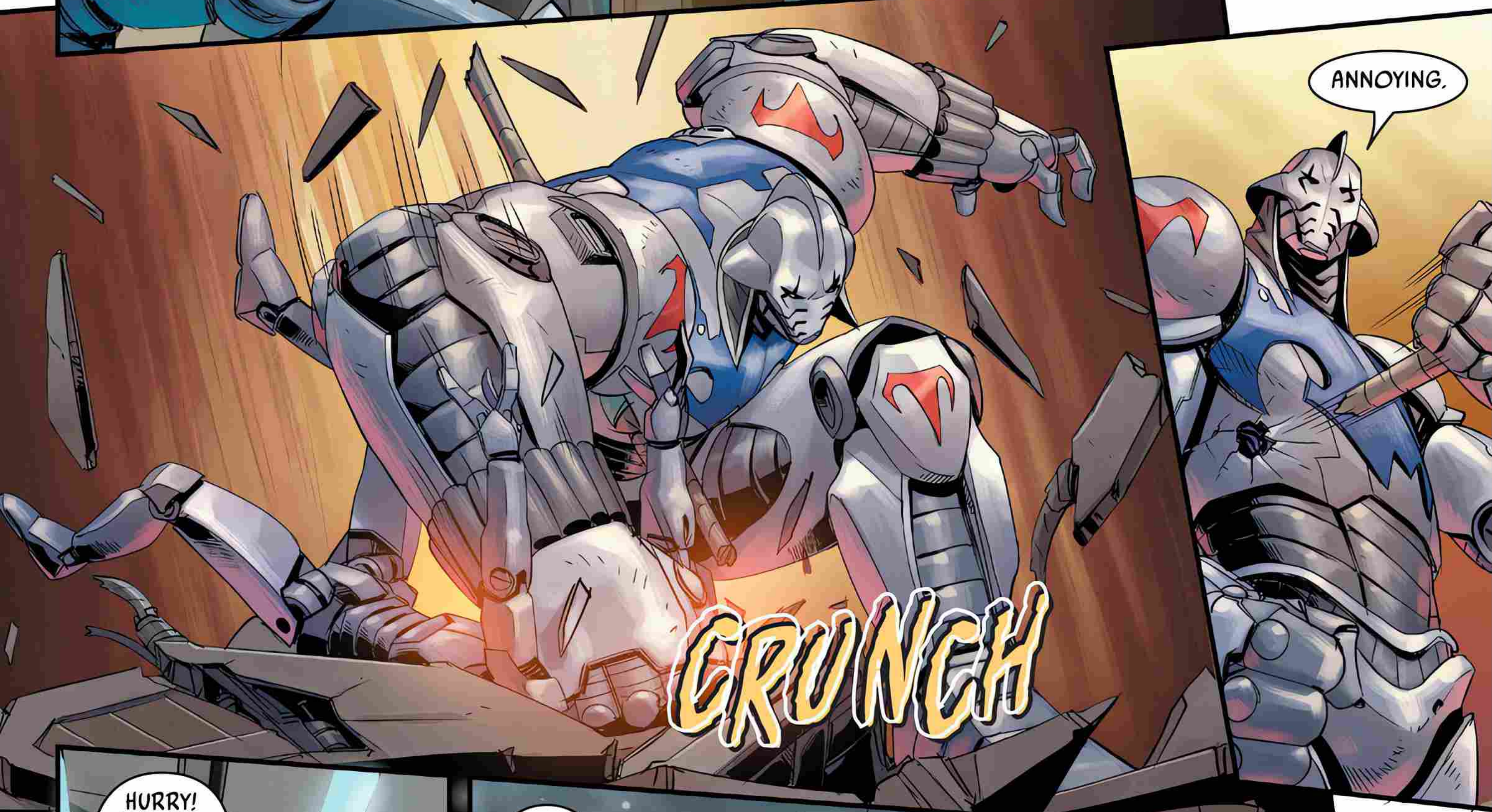


"--MY WIFE, MY FRIENDS, THEY'RE IN DANGER!!!"

WE CAN'T LET THEM TAKE VALANCE AWAY--

DANK FARRIK, T'ONGA! WE CAN'T RISK ANY MORE LIVES ON THIS FAILED MISSION!

PEW



ANNOYING.

CRUNCH



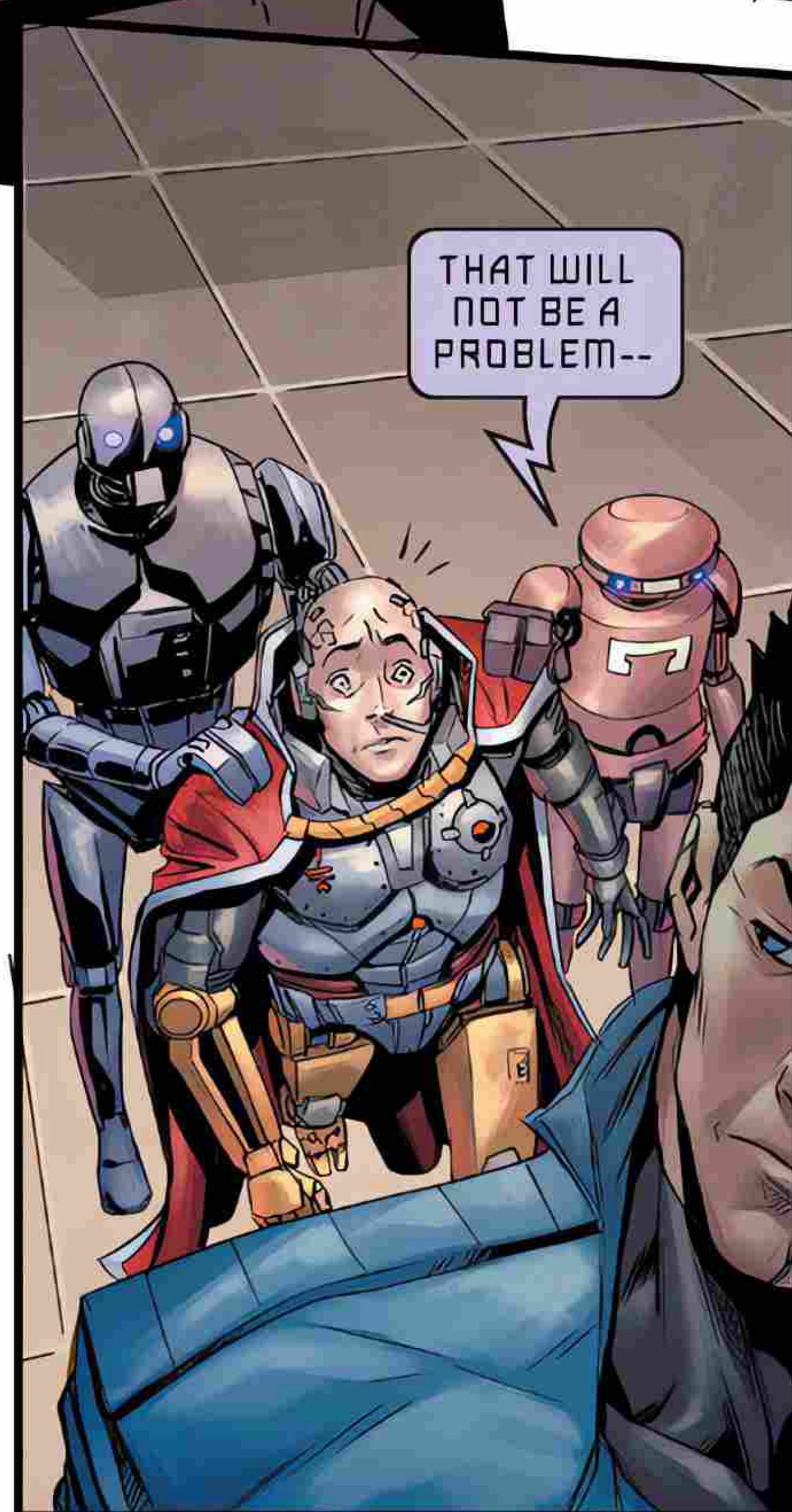
HURRY! THEY'RE ALMOST AT THE DOCKING BAY!



AT LAST!

I HAVE BEEN TRAPPED HERE FOR SO LONG...

IT WILL TAKE TIME TO ADJUST TO THE GALAXY OUTSIDE.



THAT WILL NOT BE A PROBLEM--



--AS YOU
ARE NOT
COMING.

YAAARRGHHH!

KARAZZZZ



BUT I...I
HAVE DONE ALL
YOU ASKED.

YOU SAID
YOU NEEDED
CYBORGS TO
TAKE THE NEXT
EVOLUTIONARY
STEP.

I OFFER
MYSELF
WILLINGLY.



YOUR GIFT OF
THIS VALANCE, THIS
EMPTY VESSEL, IS
APPRECIATED.

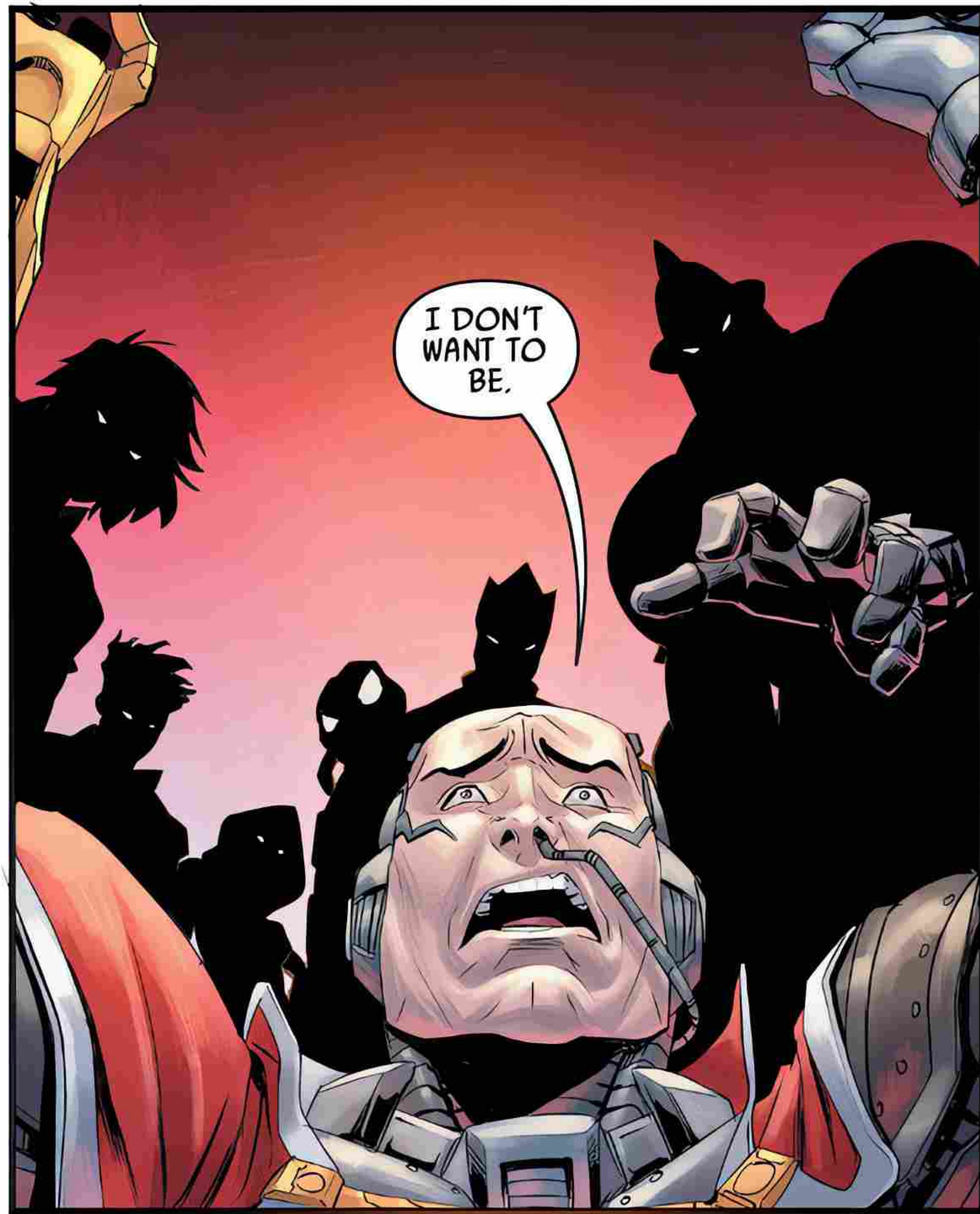
HOWEVER,
WE REJECT
YOUR OTHER
OFFER.

BUT...BUT
WHY?

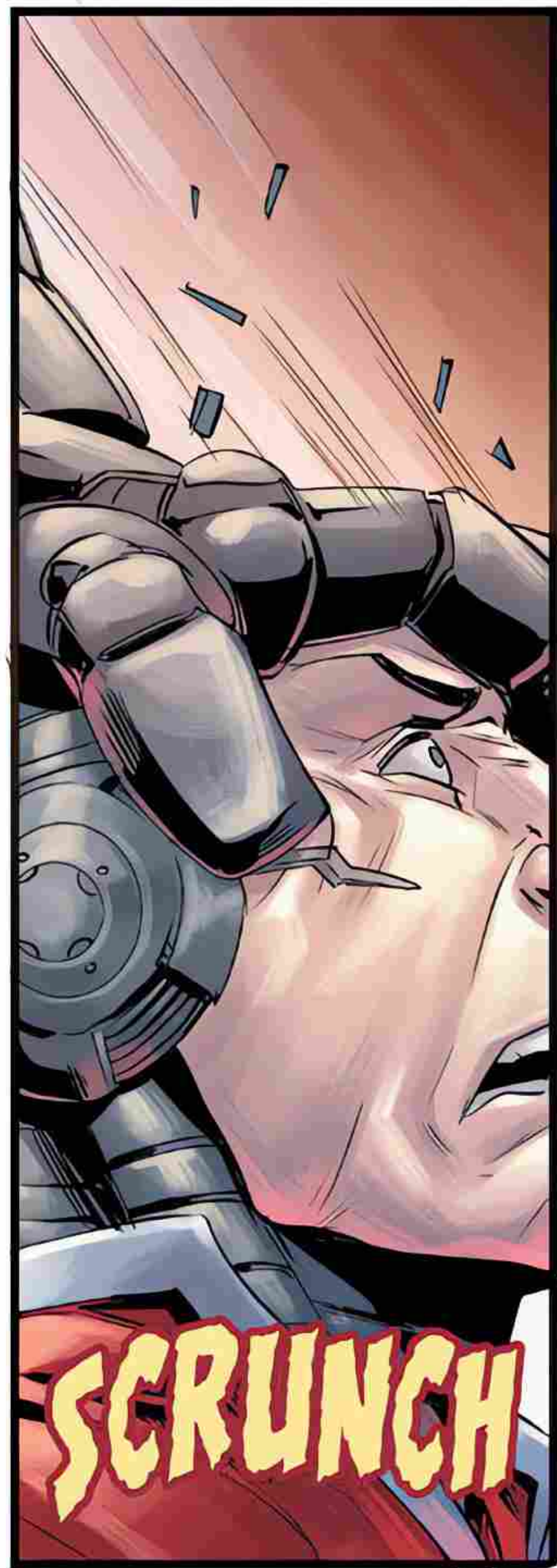


BECAUSE YOU ARE TOO HUMAN
TO ACCEPT YOUR LIMITATIONS
AND NOT HUMAN ENOUGH TO
EVOLVE FROM THEM.

YOU ARE...
FLAWED.



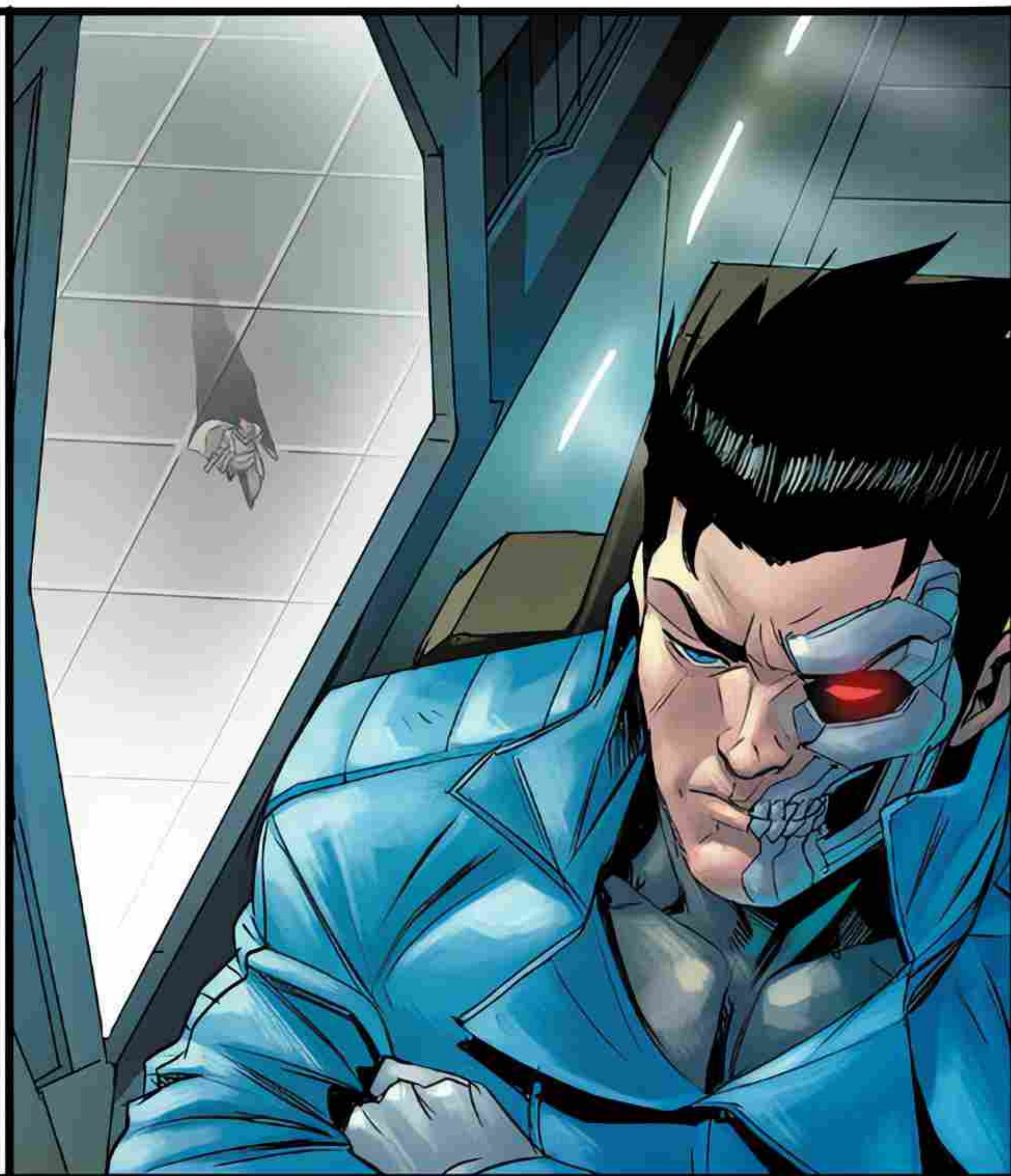
I DON'T
WANT TO
BE.



SCRUNCH



BEILERT!



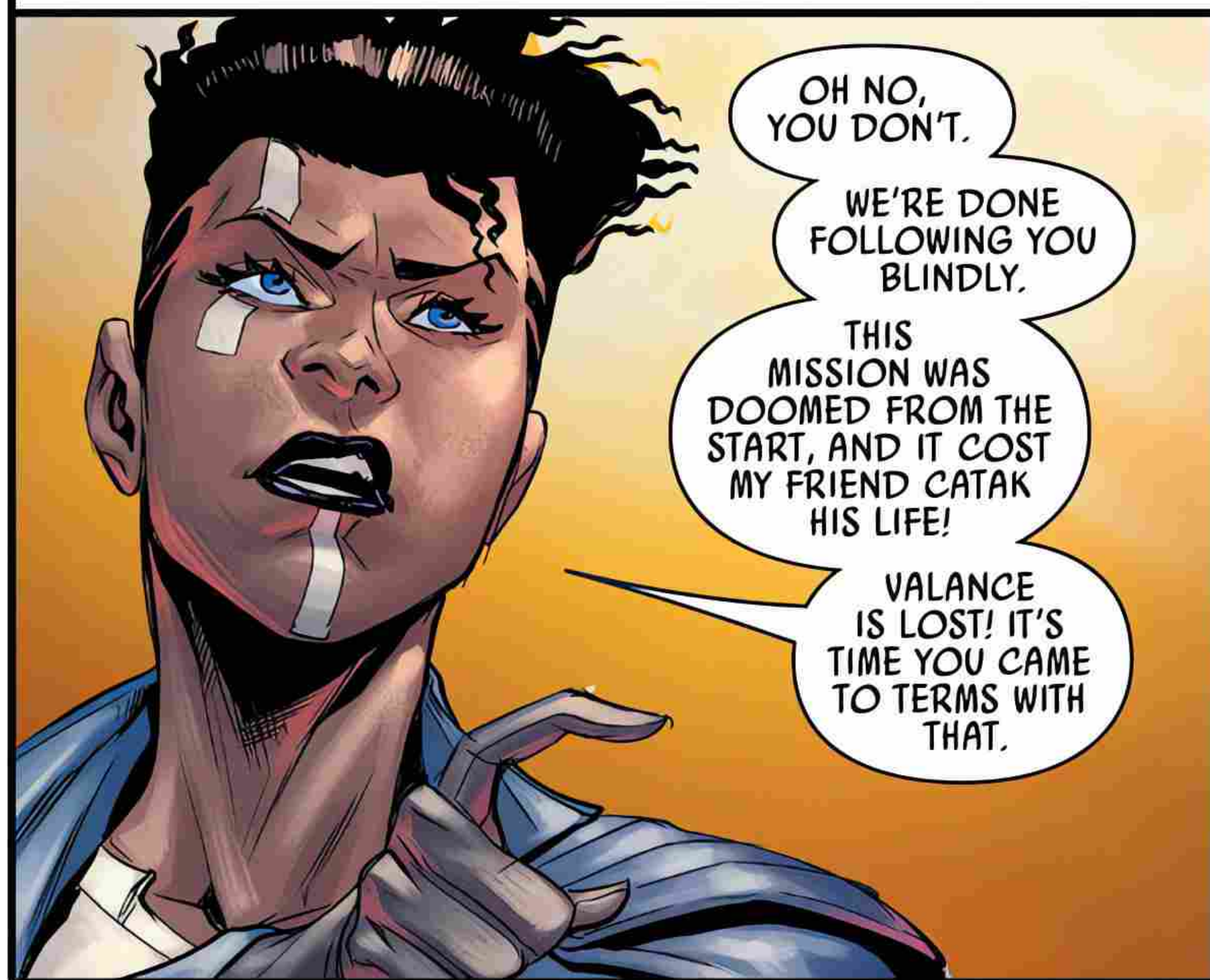
ZUCKUSS DOES NOT APPRECIATE HIS ROBES BEING USED IN THIS WAY.

SORRY.

SO, THAT'S IT? WE FAILED?

NOT YET WE HAVEN'T.

LET'S GET TO THE ENIGMA CATALYST...AND TRY TO FIGURE OUT WHERE THAT SHUTTLE IS GOING.

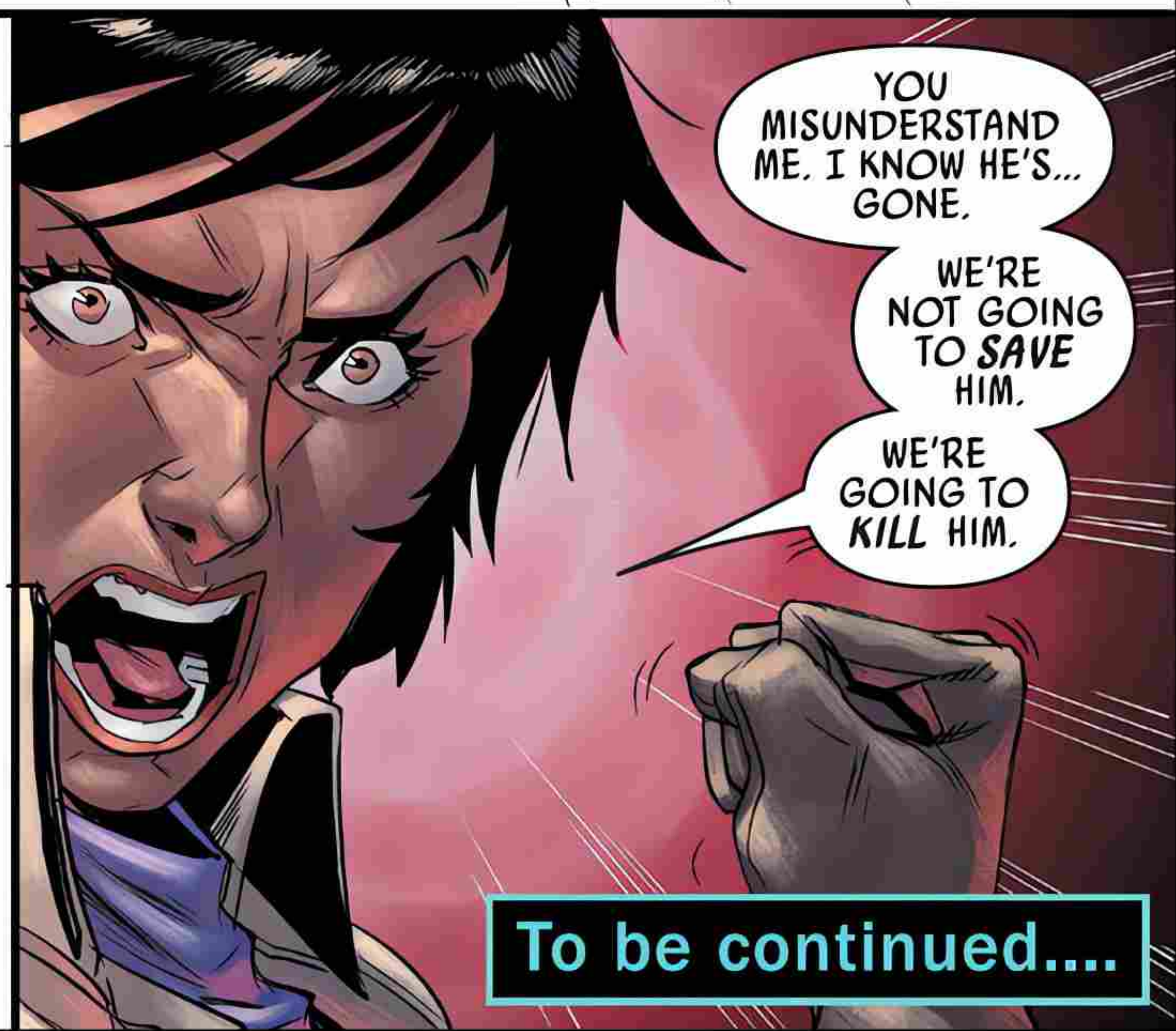


OH NO, YOU DON'T.

WE'RE DONE FOLLOWING YOU BLINDLY.

THIS MISSION WAS DOOMED FROM THE START, AND IT COST MY FRIEND CATAK HIS LIFE!

VALANCE IS LOST! IT'S TIME YOU CAME TO TERMS WITH THAT.



YOU MISUNDERSTAND ME. I KNOW HE'S... GONE.

WE'RE NOT GOING TO *SAVE* HIM.

WE'RE GOING TO *KILL* HIM.

To be continued....

It's Coming for the Metal...

AUGUST:

~~DARK DROIDS 1~~
~~STAR WARS 37~~
~~DARTH VADER 37~~
~~DOCTOR APHRA 35~~
~~BOUNTY HUNTERS 37~~

SEPTEMBER:

~~STAR WARS 38~~
~~DARK DROIDS 2~~
~~D-SQUAD 1~~
~~BOUNTY HUNTERS 38~~
~~DARTH VADER 38~~
~~DOCTOR APHRA 36~~

OCTOBER:

~~BOUNTY HUNTERS 39~~
DARTH VADER 39
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NOVEMBER:

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BOUNTY HUNTERS 40
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NEXT

BOUNTY HUNTERS 40



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PRELUDE DARK DROIDS BOUNTY HUNTERS

